

# ANNUAL REPORT

1 OCT 2021 - 30 SEPT 2022

# IAU

The global voice of  
higher education



# 20 22

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## Message from the Outgoing IAU President



Finally, after having been postponed twice, the IAU 16<sup>th</sup> General conference could be organised in 2022 and hosted by University College Dublin in October. This conference confirmed the importance to meet physically. The added value of sharing and debating challenges and opportunities for Higher Education (HE), and how the sector can best fulfil its role as key actor in society transpired in all sessions and in the lively and inspiring conversations during breaks and social activities. I think I speak for all participants when I say that the Conference was very successful and that it justified the footprint associated with the travelling to and from Ireland from all around the world.

In almost all sessions the climate crisis, the COVID-19 pandemic, the increased conflicts around the world and not at least the general de-democratization of governance were discussed as was the reaffirmation that HE is best placed to serve societies by equipping all learners with the skills and competences required to meet the challenges we face. HE is an integral part of the education ecosystem, and it provides, shares and develops knowledge through research, education, campus operations and community engagement while offering concrete ways to build bridges between the local and the global. The need for cooperation within HE and between HE, societal stakeholders and civic society was acknowledged, as were the obstacle to do so. It was clear that many challenges and opportunities call for joint action and a common voice – common yet respecting regional diversity in economic, societal and cultural perspectives. Together with its institutional and organisational Members, with its Affiliates, Associates, Senior Fellows and thematic Cluster Members, and in partnership with international and intergovernmental organisations, IAU provides this unique global platform, a think tank and knowledge hub that is so much needed today.

This year again, the IAU has developed inclusive and diversified projects and initiatives under all its priority areas of work while connecting the different voices around the world. This is much thanks to the hard, qualified and devoted work of the Secretary General, Hilligje van't Land, the staff at the IAU office in Paris and thanks to the strong engagement and participation of our Members in these activities.

Please read about the global surveys carried out, the rich series of global Webinars, the variety of publication, workshops and meetings held online and face to face; they analyse and compare new and emerging trends in HE that guide the transformation of HE to better prepare the future.

The work in 2022 culminated in the hosting of the 16<sup>th</sup> General Conference during which the election of the new IAU president and Members of the IAU Administrative Board 2022-2026 were held. I would like to welcome the new president, Andrew Deeks, with whom I have had the privilege to work over the last six years. With his experience, knowledge and strong commitment for quality higher education and the values upon which it rests, IAU welcomes a strong leader together with a very competent board with members from all continents. As the immediate past president I will continue to engage in IAU activities, also as a strong believer in the need for this invaluable global organisation to promote and advocate for HE as a common good, for democracy and sustainability in all societies – to safeguard and develop a healthier and more equitable world for next generations.

**Pam Fredman**

IAU President

Former Rector, University of Gothenburg, Sweden

## Message from the IAU President



As the world emerged from the grip of the COVID-19 pandemic, 2022 was a year of transition back to face-to-face working and socialising, taking the lessons learnt during the pandemic and moving forward to a 'new normal'. In a demanding environment, the International Association of Universities has been more active than ever, combining online meetings, webinars and activities with face-to-face opportunities.

The General Conference held at University College Dublin was certainly the highlight of the year for me, not least because colleagues from around the world elected me as president of this great association.

As incoming president, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our outgoing president, Pam Fredman, for her contributions over the last six years, and particularly for her skilled guiding of the IAU through the uncharted waters of the pandemic. Originally agreeing to serve a four-year term, Pam was gracious enough to agree to continue to serve the association first for an extra year and then for a second extra year as the pandemic made it impossible to hold the General Conference, first in 2020 and then in 2021. I would also like to thank my fellow board members for their service and collegiality over these six years. And my congratulations to all new board members elected this year!

I would also like to thank our Secretary General, Hilligje van't Land, and the team at the Secretariat for their dedicated service and performance through this difficult time and through an exceptionally busy year.

Looking forward, our new IAU Strategy 2022-2030 agreed at the General Conference provides us with a fantastic launchpad for the next four years, at a time that the world again needs increased international understanding and cooperation to reduce the geopolitical tensions that threaten both world peace and the advances in globalisation made over the last couple of decades.

I look forward to working with you to realise the vision expressed in the Strategy and to see the IAU widely recognised as the global voice of higher education. I look forward to advancing our four strategic priorities: Globally-engaged and Values-based Leadership; Internationalisation for Society and the Global Common Good; Higher Education for Sustainable Development; and Digital Transformation of Higher Education. I am particularly interested in initiatives we can undertake together that will bridge across the priority areas.

We have much to look forward to in 2023, and I am sure a highlight will be the IAU 2023 International Conference to be held in Qatar from 27-29 November and the IAU 2023 Global Meeting of Associations to be held on 30 November, also in Qatar. The theme of the International Conference, *Higher Education with Impact: the Importance of Intercultural Learning and Dialogue*, is particularly important in these times of international tension, while the adjacency of the conference to the 2023 UN Climate Change Conference (COP 28), which is to be held in Dubai from November 30 – December 12, provides an opportunity to focus on our third strategic priority, Higher Education for Sustainable Development.

I am sure you will enjoy reading this annual report as much as I did. If your university or association is not yet a member of the IAU, please encourage your decision makers to consider joining. As the oldest and most inclusive association of universities, you can see from this report that the IAU provides great value to its members.

I hope to see you all in Qatar in November and at other IAU events throughout the year.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "A J Deeks". The signature is stylized and cursive.

**Andrew J. Deeks**

IAU President 2022-2026

Vice Chancellor and President, Murdoch University, Australia

## Message from the Secretary-General



The International Association of Universities is pleased to present you with the annual report of activities for 2022. The year has been marked in particular by the preparation and participation of the IAU in the UNESCO World Conference on Higher Education (WHEC2022), in Barcelona, in May, the joint Global Forum on Higher Education Leadership for Democracy, Sustainable and Social Justice, Dublin, June; the UN Transforming Education Summit, in Paris and New York, in June and September and the preparation of the IAU 16<sup>th</sup> General Conference, in October.

This year has been marked once more by several crisis, including the ongoing impacts of COVID-19 pandemic, wars and in particular the aggression of Ukraine by Russia, the socio economic and climate challenges around the world, and challenges to democracy – all have serious implications for the higher education sector, including financial and operational ones. This year has at the same time been marked by a true commitment to debating these challenges in many fora to which IAU has been actively contributing. The sector needs reimagining and, at the same time, very careful attention.

Despite setbacks, higher education addresses these challenges and adapts. This was confirmed by the second IAU global survey report on the impact of COVID-19 on HE, launched in February 2022. The long term impacts of the pandemic on higher education will be monitored again in two years' time and the IAU continues to accompany the higher education sector through the different services offered and activities organised. The resilience of the sector was debated in the IAU Global Webinar Series on the Future of HE, in the various publications issued by the association and during the global events we co-organised.

These challenges come with an increased demand for education and higher education, for skilling, upskilling and reskilling a demand for a redefinition or reimagining of the kind of higher education need to better serve society. The changes in expectations from the students, staff and society at large, the uncertainty of a future yet to be defined have been debated at the WHEC 2022 and in the many sessions organised by the IAU during the Conference. In a time rocked by fake news, populism, and the rise of extremisms, we learn that value based higher education is more necessary than ever. This aspect has received important attention during the year and in particular during the joint Global Forum on Democracy, Sustainability and Social Justice hosted by Dublin City University in June.

In preparation of the IAU 16<sup>th</sup> GC, the key normative instrument on the digital transformation of higher education, we have offered all Members the opportunity to meet online in some 20 online meetings. It allowed the IAU Board and staff to hear first-hand what Members expect from their association and how they wish to contribute to it. This has provided for quality feedback into the IAU Strategic Plan to 2030 and allowed to reaffirm the priority areas of work for the association: leadership, internationalisation, sustainable development, digitalisation and value based higher education through advocacy, monitoring, collaboration and true and inclusive global exchange.

Special thanks go to the members of the outgoing board for their extraordinary support over the last 6 years, special thanks as well to all Members and partners for the great involvement and rich contributions to the various debates organised, projects carried out, publications prepared. We look forward to working with the new President and Board elected in Dublin in October and to strong cooperation in the academic year 2022-2023. Let's meet again face to face at the University of Qatar in November 2023 to debate Higher education with impact: the importance of intercultural learning and dialogue.

**Hilligje van't Land**  
IAU Secretary General

# VISION AND MISSION

*IAU – The Global Voice of Higher Education*

**IAU's Vision** is for the Association to be the global voice of higher education by advocating for and advancing a dynamic leadership role for higher education in society, articulating the fundamental values and principles that underpin education, disseminating and applying knowledge, and acting as an influential and representative global association of diverse higher education institutions and their organisations. IAU is a think tank and forum for the development of new approaches, the sharing of best practice & the undertaking of joint action.

**IAU's Mission** is to contribute to peace and human development by promoting and enhancing the power of higher education to transform lives through capacity building, connecting diverse peoples, generating and disseminating new knowledge, creating meaningful insights, and finding sustainable solutions to local and global challenges.



## **A Standard and Trendsetter**

IAU ensures regular dialogues with national and international organisations, and in particular with Members, to represent the higher education community in all its diversity, inform policy making, provide recommendations, and advocate for strong higher education systems around the world. As standard and trend setter, IAU develops Policy Statements on various issues of global concern for higher education (available here: <https://iau-aiu.net/Policy-Statements>)



## **A Facilitator for International Collaboration**

As global convener, IAU organises international events and webinars with participants from different regions of the world for mutual exchange and dialogue across its different thematic areas of work. It fosters collaboration, networking and partnership building.



## **A Capacity Builder**

IAU offers capacity-building and advisory services to support institutional development at every stage. IAU continuously develops and improves the programmes and services that Members can benefit from. ISAS (2.0) has been developed to help Members review, develop or revise their internationalization policies, strategies and programmes. The institutional site visits on the digital transformation of HE connect universities around the world for exchange on innovations related to digital transformation, including teaching & learning and research.



## **A Think Tank and Knowledge Hub**

IAU conducts research on the higher education sector and institution specific issues and ensures the dissemination of relevant knowledge and data both in relation to its strategic priorities but also on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on higher education.



## **A Communications Powerhouse**

IAU disseminates information to the broad higher education community across the world, most importantly the universities and other higher education institutions but also to national and multilateral organisations and government agencies.

## IAU in numbers

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We are pleased to share with you some of the IAU's major achievements in numbers for the academic year 2021-2022. IAU continually enhances engagement with its Members, strengthens partnerships, and develops meaningful new initiatives for the benefit of the global higher education community.

**15 webinars** in the series on  
the Future of Higher Education

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**90+ speakers**

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**5000 participants**  
from around the world

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**3.8 million pageviews**  
on the WHED

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**1.8 million searches**  
on HEIs and higher education systems

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**768,117 page views**  
on the IAU website

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**8000+ followers**  
on Twitter (@iau\_iau; @iau-hesd; @VantlandH)

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Thank you for supporting IAU's vision and mission.

# GOVERNANCE

The General Conference is the supreme decision-making body of the Association. It typically meets every four years, but due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 16<sup>th</sup> General Conference was convened in Dublin, Ireland in 2022, 6 years after the previous General Conference.

The General Conference is particularly important in the life of the IAU because it includes several business sessions. It is at these business sessions that the IAU President and the IAU Administrative Board members are elected and Members adopt the future strategic direction for the Association.

It is a pleasure to report that Andrew Deeks, President and Vice-Chancellor of Murdoch University in Australia has taken office as the 16<sup>th</sup> IAU President for the period 2022-2026. The IAU is also pleased to introduce the members of the Administrative Board that will be serving alongside the President. They are presented on the following page; more information is available on the IAU website.



Final meeting of the IAU Administrative Board 2016-2022.

The General Conference was also a time to thank the outgoing President, Pam Fredman, Former Rector of Gothenburg University, Sweden. She was not only the first female President of the IAU, but also the longest serving President in IAU history, as the pandemic changed the conditions for convening global events. The IAU sincerely appreciates her dedication and investment in the Association during her term as well as her leadership during a difficult period of time. She continues to be actively involved in the IAU as a member of the Administrative Board in her new function as the Immediate Past President. The IAU also pays tribute to outgoing Board members, thanks them for their invaluable contributions to the IAU in times of challenges and appreciates that many will continue to contribute to the work of the Association as IAU Associates.



**About IAU / Governance Structure**

<https://iau-aiu.net/Governance-Structure>

## IAU Administrative Board

### 2022-2026

#### PRESIDENT

**Andrew Deeks**, *Vice-Chancellor and President, Murdoch University, Australia*

#### IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

**Pam Fredman**, *Former Rector, University of Gothenburg, Sweden*

#### MEMBERS

##### Africa

**Sunungurai Dominica Chingarande**, *Vice Chancellor, Women's University of Africa, Zimbabwe*

**Jouhaina Gherib**, *President, University of Manouba, Tunisia*

**Abdul-Rasheed Na'Allah**, *Vice-Chancellor, University of Abuja, Nigeria*

##### Americas

**Patrick Deane**, *Principal and Vice-Chancellor, Queen's University, Canada*

**Fernando Leon-Garcia**, *President, CETYS University, Mexico*

##### Asia & Pacific

**Mohd Hamdi Abd Shukor**, *Vice Chancellor, University Malaya, Malaysia*

**Hassan Al-Derham**, *President, Qatar University, Qatar*

**Salim Daccache**, *Rector, Saint Joseph University of Beirut, Lebanon*

**Samit Ray**, *Chancellor, Adamas University, India*

**Yoshiaki Terumichi**, *President, Sophia University, Japan*

##### Europe

**Peter Aronsson**, *Vice-Chancellor, Linnaeus University, Sweden*

**Shahin Bayramov**, *Rector, Mingachevir State University, Azerbaijan*

**Henk Kummeling**, *Rector Magnificus, Utrecht University, The Netherlands*

**Miquel Nicolau-Vila**, *Rector, University of Andorra, Andorra*



**Inga Žalėnienė** *Rector, Mykolas Romeris University, Lithuania*

##### Organisations

**Roberto Escalante**, *Secretary General, UDUAL, Mexico*

**Cristina Montalvão Sarmento**, *Secretary General, Association of Portuguese Speaking Universities, Portugal*

#### DEPUTY MEMBERS

##### Africa

**Nana Aba Appiah Amfo**, *Vice-Chancellor, University of Ghana, Ghana*

**Wondwosen Tamrat**, *President, St. Mary's University, Ethiopia*

##### Organisations

**David Julien**, *Secretary General, Inter-American Organization for Higher Education, Canada*

**Amr Ezzat Salama**, *Secretary General, Association of Arab Universities, Jordan*

#### HONORARY PRESIDENTS

**Dzulkifli Abdul Razak**, *President 2012-2016, Rector, International Islamic University of Malaysia, Malaysia*

**Juan Ramón De La Fuente**, *President 2008-2012, Former Rector, National Autonomous University of Mexico, Mexico*

**Goolam Mohamedbhai**, *President 2004-2008, Former Secretary General, Association of African Universities, AAU, Ghana*

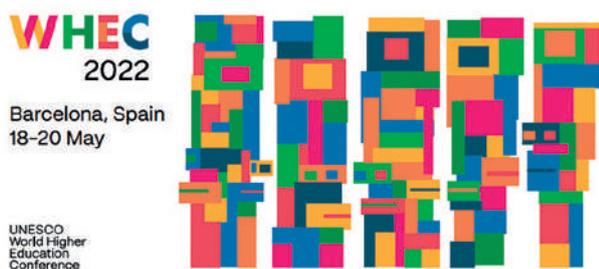
**Hans Van Ginkel**, *President 2000-2004, Former Rector, Utrecht University, The Netherlands; Former Rector, United Nations University, Japan*

**Justin Thorens**, *President 1985-1990, Former Rector, Université de Genève, Switzerland*

The IAU reiterates its gratitude to the 2016-2022 Administrative Board who served during an especially tumultuous period and who nonetheless remained dedicated to and passionate about the work of the IAU.

## GLOBAL EVENTS

### UNESCO World Higher Education Conference (WHEC-2022)



For the third time, the Association assumed an important role at the UNESCO World Higher Education Conference (WHEC2022). The third WHEC took place in Barcelona in May 2022. It convened HE stakeholders with the ambitious aim to reshape “ideas and practices in higher education to ensure sustainable development for the planet and humanity”. The WHEC brought together some 2000 people from 140 countries in order to chart the course for higher education in the decade ahead and identify the daunting challenges.

The conference called upon all higher education stakeholders to engage with the Agenda 2030 and adopt it as a framework for their activities and intentions. It urged universities to reach beyond their disciplinary boundaries and expand partnerships to achieve the transformations needed. More than ever, the attendees were reminded that the sciences and the humanities have the important responsibility to strengthen democratic

societies, nurture critical mindsets and civic engagement, and connect research and policy for the common good while helping students navigate complexities.

The intentions of the WHEC crystallised in a road map “Beyond Limits” which called for six major transitions:

- *From exclusion to inclusion:* to reaffirm HE as part of the right to education and as a public common good with all its implications this has;
- *From a discipline-oriented to a holistic approach:* an approach which encompasses academic, professional, and the dimension of citizenship;
- *From a siloed methodology to a trans-disciplinary approach* that encourages open dialogue and diverse perspectives;
- From a terminal incremental approach to a lifelong learning model;
- *From a hierarchical, one size fits all model to a flexible, agile, diversity-based model;*
- *From a content-based approach to a transformative one,* putting technology at the service of effective teaching learning and research

### IAU Contributions to UNESCO WHEC2022

Aside from the inclusion of various IAU written contributions, such as Open Knowledge Products and a Policy Brief, the IAU, in its capacity as a key partner of the WHEC2022, organised multiple sessions at the conference and spoke at others.



## Open Knowledge Products (OKP)

The IAU contributed the following OKP to the 3<sup>rd</sup> WHEC:

- ▶ IAU dedicated Volume 27 number 1 of *IAU Horizons* to the theme of the UNESCO WHEC2022
- ▶ A special recorded webinar launching the IAU 2<sup>nd</sup> Global Survey on the Impact of COVID-19 on HE was prepared for the WHEC and presented as part of the official program
- ▶ Members of the Network of International Education Associations (NIEA), coordinated by the IAU, prepared and submitted a policy brief, *The Continuing Need for Internationalization of Higher Education*, to the third UNESCO World Higher Education Conference (WHEC2022).
- ▶ Furthermore, IAU submitted a joint document with ACU and AUF to WHEC2022 which outlines how higher education partnerships and associations can accelerate progress on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- ▶ As Observers, the International Science Council (ISC) and the IAU provided input to the Global Independent Expert Group on the Universities and the 2030 Agenda (EGU2030) initiative led by the University of Bergen and UNESCO. The EGU2030 Report to the WHEC2022, titled *Knowledge-Driven Actions: Transforming Higher Education for Global Sustainability*, can be accessed online.

## Dedicated Sessions

The IAU Round Table, *Leading Universities Towards Transformation – Finding New Pathways*, welcomed the participation of IAU Board Members and Leaders of Member Institutions and Organisations. The outcomes are captured in an article in *IAU Horizons 27.1*. The session had five important findings: (1) *Opening Research and Knowledge Circulation* is essential to gradually transform traditionally closed scientific systems into more inclusive, accessible, efficient

and transparent spaces for interaction and collaboration. (2) There is a need to *Reappraise the Mission of Education* towards transformative education to give more value to teaching, pedagogy, and mentoring in staff appraisals and career advancement. (3) It is necessary to *Recalibrate Relevance* and break free from the pressures of international rankings to expand the definition of quality. (4) Emphasis must be placed on *Building Global Citizenship* by widening the curricula with a deeper social, ethical and conceptual set of questions that go beyond the subject matter in order to (5) *drive social transformation* and cease perpetuating and reproducing the very conditions underlying the challenges of the world.

The IAU was invited by the Unesco Division for Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) to lead the organisation on a joint session on *Higher Education's Role in Securing a Sustainable Future* with UNESCO and SDSN/Mission 4.7. The expert presentations and discussion during the session included IAU Board Member, the chair of the HESD working group, Pornchai Mongkhonvanit, and partner organisation ACU.

IAU Secretary General Hilligje van't Land was invited as speaker to the UNESCO Dialogue on *Reimagining the Futures of Higher Education* which reflected on the outcomes of the Report of the UNESCO Futures of Education Initiative. 2016–2022 IAU President Pam Fredman was one of the speakers during the Round Table *International cooperation to enhance synergies* with the participation organised by the International Institute for Higher Education in Latin America and the Caribbean (IESALC).

Additionally, the IAU was invited by UNESCO to contribute to the *Higher Education Conversations*, in particular those relating to the strategic priorities of the Association and to provide suggestions for prominent speakers for 'HED talks'.

The overall outcome document of the WHEC is a draft roadmap linked to the 10 themes identified in the concept note of the conference. The process of engagement with this roadmap is ongoing, and the IAU will participate in the open consultation process with its Members.



## UN Transforming Education Summit

June in Paris and September in New York, 2022

Among the events in which the IAU participated were the UN Transforming Education pre-Summit (pre-TES) at UNESCO in Paris in June, and the UN TES at the UN Headquarters in New York in September. The IAU presented in both events as a partner to the session organised by the SDG Academy of the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN), placing focus on the importance of sharing Open Educational Resources to ensure proper circulation of knowledge around the world. While the Summit provided an important opportunity to mobilise support of governments across the world for the importance of investing in education, higher education unfortunately remains at the fringes of the conversations. The IAU thus continues to call for more specific attention to the higher education sector.



Trine Jensen, IAU Manager Digitalisation of HE, second from the left, at the UN Transforming Education Summit, New York, September 2022.



## Global Forum 2022 – Higher Education Leadership for Democracy, Sustainability and Social Justice

hosted by DCU, Dublin, June 2022

The IAU is part of the Global Cooperation for the Democratic Mission of Higher Education. This partnership encompasses the Council of Europe, the International Consortium for Higher Education, Civic Responsibility, and Democracy, and the Organization of American States. Together, the partners organised a joint *Global Forum 2022 on Higher Education Leadership For Democracy, Sustainability, and Social Justice* at Dublin City University. It brought together some 140 higher education leaders and representatives of public authorities and local, regional, national, and international organisations to critically explore and actively advance higher education's role in constructing a more equitable, sustainable, democratic world. The IAU brought a truly global voice to the table and advocated for the values upon which to develop quality higher education.

The Global Forum was called into life against a backdrop of urgency. The need for higher education to promote sustainability and racial and social justice, as well as to advance and maintain democracy, has never been more apparent. The discussions welcomed honest deliberations about the state of higher education, the social, political and economic circumstances under which they operate, and possible ways forward.



From top to bottom: Roundtable debate between Forum Partners; Minister Harris, Ireland, meeting Forum Partners; Sjur Bergan, former Head Education Department, Council of Europe, receiving a Doctorate Honoris Causa from DCU, host of the Forum.

The key outcomes of the conference were that universities need to expand the concept of their democratic mission in a more holistic way, reinforce their pastoral care duty, and cater to the material, technological, medical and mental needs of their constituencies. This is both an integral part of the democratic mission of higher education and a prerequisite to empower democracy and civic participation more broadly. In sum, universities need to help build the material, political and social framework for democracy to flourish.

One of the key outcomes of the Global Forum will be an edited collection of essays, to be published in the Council of Europe's Higher Education Series, with IAU as one of the co-editors.

## IAU 16<sup>th</sup> General Conference

The IAU convened its 16<sup>th</sup> General Conference in Ireland in October 2022, bringing together 300 delegates from 70 countries. Hosted by University College Dublin (UCD), participants were welcomed onto the beautiful campus by students and staff alike. From the first day, the room was filled with enthusiasm, a constant buzz of conversations and the joy of meeting old friends again or making new acquaintances. A vibrant and positive atmosphere permeated the event by way of lively discussions, laughter, tolerance, solidarity and respect while jointly reflecting on the future of higher education.

The General Conference is a particularly important event in the functioning of the Association as it not only brings together Members for exchange but also is the time for elections to the Presidency and Administrative Board (page 7) and the adoption of the strategic direction for the Association. The thematic part of the conference was organised around the theme **Relevance and Value of Universities to Future Society**. This theme was discussed from different perspectives and inspired conversations on the broader structural changes needed in higher education, transformations required to unlock knowledge for the common good, and the type of innovations that would allow teaching and learning and research to better respond to the needs of society and for building sustainable societies.

Stefania Giannini, Assistant Director General of UNESCO, addressed the assembly by highlighting that despite the numerous challenges at this moment in time, it is important to continue to uphold the principle that higher education is part

of the right to education and a public common good. Higher education is a strategic force to steer progress towards a more sustainable, fair and inclusive society.

Many important discussions emerged during the Conference, reflecting on the relevance and value of higher education to society, bringing together perspectives from different regions of the world identifying the transformations required moving forward. Throughout the Conference, many encouraging conclusions were drawn: such as the need for fostering knowledge commons, dialogue and making a plurality of voices heard and how rather than moving towards a standardisation of universities, the value of diversity and differences must be at the centre. In many ways the messages echoed the very purpose of the IAU, as a space for Members to come together, share perspectives, ideas and concerns while embracing the diversity of the higher education landscape around the world.

In the closing plenary session, Simon Harris, Irish Minister for Higher Education, Innovation and Science, highlighted the critical importance of unity in diversity in higher education in order to achieve equity, diversity and inclusion in future society. Moreover, he underscored the need for collaboration between all levels of education and between different sectors of society, HEIs and international HE systems. In light of this need for collaboration, the IAU, as a global association fostering partnership and internationalization, plays a central role in the future of higher education and society at large. By bringing together Members from around the world, the IAU is uniquely positioned to host the necessary discussions on complex issues, inspire collaborative research for sustainable development, and propose solutions to the challenges faced by society.

➡ **Presentations and recordings of select sessions are available on the Conference website:**  
[www.IAUDublin2022.net](http://www.IAUDublin2022.net)



## IAU Webinar Series on the Future of Higher Education

The *IAU Webinar Series: The Future of Higher Education* was first developed as a temporary initiative and service for Members during the time of lockdowns in many countries. Over time, it has grown into a steady series offering an opportunity for Members and beyond to take part in debates on topics of key importance to higher education. This additional membership service is a great

opportunity to engage with Members and to allow them to participate in the debates and discussions. As the frequency of in-person events and meetings has increased since the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, the webinar series has been adjusted from hosting approximately 2 sessions per month to one.

### IAU Webinars offered in 2022 and available on the IAU YouTube Channel include:

#### **IAU-WAHEN | Equitable Access and Success in Higher Education: Mapping the Future Agenda**

This joint event addressed how, as the world emerges from the height of the pandemic, new and old challenges risk forcing equity down the list of institutional and government priorities. Speakers questioned how much one can expect inequalities in access and success to change if how higher education is delivered, students are admitted, and policies are made remains the same.

#### **Exploring the Nexus between Health, Equity, and Gender**

This webinar organised with the Open University of Catalonia (UOC) discussed the factors that affect equity, equal access, and outcomes to health to ensure that everyone can lead healthy lives and realise their full potential. The discussion considered how e-health, as an emerging mechanism of delivery, is affecting gender equity in health.

#### **Launch of IAU Horizons – In Focus: Reinventing Higher Education?**

As the launch event for *IAU Horizons*, Volume 27, no.1, this webinar invited some of the authors to consider the key opportunities to pursue and challenges to confront, what would be essential to the future of higher education, and, broadly, whether higher education needed to be reinvented. The magazine is available online.

#### **IAU – Qatar University: The Importance of International Cooperation in Higher Education**

For details, see page 17.

#### **How does the Pandemic Shape the Future of Higher Education?**

This webinar, as a contribution to the UNESCO World Higher Education Conference (WHEC), May 2022, investigated higher education in the post-pandemic reality, drawing from the results of the second Global Survey on the impact of COVID-19 on higher education: *Higher Education One Year into the COVID-19 Pandemic* by the IAU.

#### **Transformative Education, Digital Learning, and Partnerships Toward a More Sustainable and Equitable Future**

Transforming education is an umbrella term that encompasses the common objectives and methodologies of the types of education outlined in SDG Target 4.7, including education for sustainable development, global citizenship education, environmental education, and human rights education, among others. This webinar contributed to the debates at UN High Level Political Forum (HLPF) 2022.

#### **What Future for Higher Education Learning in a Post-Pandemic World?**

The COVID-19 pandemic forced universities around the world to embrace digital teaching and learning. However, even as the world eased pandemic-related restrictions, not all aspects of digital teaching and learning were retracted.

In 2022, the IAU hosted 15 webinars on a broad range of topics: from female leadership in HE to the importance of international collaboration; from leadership for sustainable development to the nexus between health and equity in education. The Webinar Series welcomed over 5,000 registrations for live participation this year, and the webinar recordings have collectively reached over 2,500 views.

### IAU-CIHE International research cooperation in a new geopolitical context

For details, see page 17.

### Higher Education One Year into the COVID-19 Pandemic

This webinar officially launched the report of the second edition of The *IAU Global Survey on The Impact of COVID-19 on Higher Education*, presented an overview and discussed the main results of the survey. The Report is available online via Open Access.

### Two Webinars to celebrate the 2022 International Women's Day theme on "Gender equality today for a sustainable tomorrow".

- **Women in Leadership in Higher Education:** Global and Regional Perspectives: Education Sub Saharan Africa (ESSA), European Women Rectors Association (EWORA) and the IAU hosted a global conversation on women in leadership in education, with a special focus on European and African gender-sensitive institutional structures and policies.

- **Gender Equality in Higher Education and Research across Europe:** The EWORA and the IAU organised a webinar on the advancement of gender equality in higher education and research for the future generations to celebrate women's achievements altogether.

### IAU - UNEP-YEA! Connecting Higher Education and the Green Economy Community: Workforce Development for the Clean Energy Transition and Climate Solutions

Geared towards the higher education community and focused on the need for a green economy, this event provides an overview about how to update all academic areas to help create an inclusive work environment able to address the climate crisis and provide careers that support sustainable development.

### IAU - HETL: Towards a More Sustainable Future: What Can HE Leadership Do to Get There?

Through education, research, campus initiatives, community engagement activities and campaigns at a local, national, regional, and global level, universities are the key to healthier, greener, fairer, and more inclusive societies. This panel discussed how higher education leadership engages in constructive cooperation for a sustainable way forward.

### The Global Role of University Associations

The local and global role of university associations is one of carefully considering the course of higher education. Leaders of different university associations reflected on the local and global role of university associations, how they collaborate and complement each other (or at times compete) and how they influence higher education and society.

### International Green Gown Awards Masterclass

This webinar, co-organised by EAUC, ACU AUF and IAU, introduced the winners of the 2022 International Green Gown Awards, which recognise exceptional sustainability initiatives undertaken by the world's universities and colleges.

Learn more about the series and discover past sessions:

<https://iau-aiu.net/IAU-Webinar-Series-on-the-Future-of-Higher-Education-929>

## GMA's are open to international and national HE organisations and Members of the IAU.

Organisational Members of the IAU are:

### International higher education organizations

- Agence universitaire de la Francophonie (AUF)
- Association of African Universities, (AAU)
- Association of Arab Universities (AARU)
- Associação das Universidades de Língua Portuguesa (AULP)
- Aurora Universities Network
- European University Association (EUA)
- Inter-American Organization for Higher Education (IOHE)
- Mediterranean Universities Union
- NAFSA: Association of International Educators
- The Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU)
- The University of the Arctic (UARctic)
- UNICA – Network of the Universities from the Capitals of Europe
- Union de Universidades de América Latina (UDUAL)

### National higher education organizations

- American Council on Education (ACE), USA
- Association of Indian Universities
- Association of Private Universities of Japan
- Association of Swedish Higher Education (SUHF)
- Association of Universities of Bangladesh
- Bavarian University Alliance (BUA)
- Committee of Vice-Chancellors of Nigerian Universities
- Conference of Rectors of Roman Pontifical Universities and Institutions (CRUIPRO), Holy See
- Conference of Rectors of Spanish Universities (CRUE)
- Hungarian Rector's Conference
- Japan Association of National Universities
- The National Council of Rectors in Romania
- Universités Canada
- Université du Québec
- Universities of The Netherlands
- Universities South Africa

## IAU Global Meetings of Associations (GMA)

The extraordinary circumstances of the pandemic led to even stronger cooperation among the IAU Member organisations as the steady flow of virtual encounters and exchanges enhanced the IAU series of Global Meetings of Associations.

There were two main focal points of cooperation at the GMA: **the second Global Survey on the Impact of COVID-19 on Higher Education and the role of university associations in the shaping and execution of the UNESCO World Higher Education Conference.**

With regard to the survey, the contributions benefitted from wide participation of the associations, in particular through the formation of a working group composed of several volunteering organisational members from different parts of the world. This second edition of the survey was more comprehensive than the first. It captured the impact of the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic on higher education around the world and the responses by HEIs to the challenges posed by the pandemic. Responses were collected from 496 higher education institutions from 112 countries and territories in all regions of the world. A launch webinar was organised in March 2022 and the results have been presented at numerous events and conferences.

The second point of collaboration among the GMA Members pertained to the UNESCO WHEC 2022. After a series of conversations held online on how to engage with the 3<sup>rd</sup> WHEC, the GMA commissioned the IAU Secretariat to solicit a meeting with UNESCO to seek more clarification on the process; a letter, co-signed by 22 associations of universities from around the world, was sent to UNESCO.

The letter underscored that the WHEC Roadmap must be a truly collective construction to which all stakeholders are called upon to contribute. The IAU and its Organisational Members reiterated in the letter their commitment to contributing in a meaningful way to the global conversation on higher education. It also reminded UNESCO that a strong partnership between UNESCO and the global higher education sector would be essential to respond to the challenges being faced by the HE community and to set a signal of strength towards policy makers, the global higher education community and society.

Associations and Organisations, Members of the IAU, will jointly provide input for the draft Roadmap that was launched at WHEC. This work will be undertaken in 2023.

# THEMATIC PRIORITIES

## IAU STRATEGY 2030

IAU works to enhance the higher education community's role and actions in advancing societies worldwide.

The **IAU Strategy 2030** affirms IAU's focus on four key higher education priority themes, while improving support and services to members as well as enhancing their visibility and engagement.

### IAU Four Strategic Priorities

- Globally-engaged and Values-based **Leadership**;
- **Internationalization** for Society and the Global Common Good;
- Higher Education and Research for **Sustainable Development**;
- **Digital Transformation of Higher Education**.

## CORE VALUES

IAU promotes **core values** among its Members and the wider higher education community including:

- Academic freedom, institutional autonomy and social responsibility locally and globally
- Cooperation and solidarity based on mutuality of interests and shared benefits
- Tolerance of divergent opinions, freedom from political interference
- Equity in access and success in higher education and open access to knowledge
- Scientific integrity and ethical behaviour as cornerstones of conduct for all stakeholders in higher education
- Higher education and research in the public interest
- Quality in learning, research and outreach



## Values-based Leadership

*Strengthening capacities of leaders to maximise positive impact of universities.*

Both values-based and globally-engaged leadership are integral parts of the vision and mission of the IAU which runs through all of the Association's work and activities. The IAU takes part in key events around the world to advocate for the same.

The IAU priority on leadership also fosters exchange of ideas and experiences between university leaders, to identify the challenges of the time and suggest how higher education might address and surmount them. They inspire ways forward to enhance the capacity of higher education institutions to respond to complex institutional challenges and drive social transformation. But, leading a university is no easy feat; leaders require skills to successfully navigate its collective power based in and deriving from individual freedom.

The question "what kind of university for what kind of society" had received new urgency throughout the year considering the pandemic and other major geopolitical and social events. The notion that universities need to show more responsibility and responsiveness to society was one of the key learnings over the past year, as discussed in various international and global gatherings the IAU organised or was represented at. In addition to the WHEC, TES, the Global Forum, the IAU took part in the Magna Charta Universitatum Anniversary in Bologna which discussed "*universities engaging with society in turbulent times*"; the Donor Harmonisation Group in Basel on "*cooperation for the next generation*"; and was invited as speaker to many other events organised by partners and Members.

### IAU Webinars

The IAU carried out a series of Leadership focused Webinars. The results of the vibrant discussions were captured in an article in *IAU Horizons* Vol 26.2 that distilled six core learnings: Universities must stay true to tradition – through change; The value proposition of universities needs to change evolve in a changing world; Public funding in higher education is an investment not an expenditure; Leading through uncertainty means leading with purpose; The business model needs to be re-imagined for more meaningful international cooperation; The question of what is a good university must be constantly reexamined.



### ➔ Priorities / Leadership

Contact: Andreas Corcoran ([a.corcoran@iau-aiu.net](mailto:a.corcoran@iau-aiu.net))

IAU Leadership: <https://www.iau-aiu.net/Leadership>



## Internationalization

*Promoting an inclusive, fair and ethical internationalization Higher Education.*



Patric Deane, Principal and Vice-Chancellor, receives the ISAS Learning Badge "Planning and Strategy" for Queen's University, Canada.

The IAU has been very active also in the context of this key priority area of work and carried out the following main activities:

### International Strategies Advisory Service – ISAS (2.0)



The ISAS (2.0) *Planning and Strategy service at Queen's University in Canada* was successfully completed with the expert panel, composed of Eva Egron-Polak, IAU Senior Fellow and former Secretary-General; Alessandra Scagliarini, Vice Rector for

International Relations, University of Bologna, Italy; Harvey Charles Dean for International Education and Vice Provost for Global Strategy, University at Albany, State University of New York, U.S.A.; and Giorgio Marinoni, IAU Manager HE and internationalization. The expert panel visited the main university campus in Kingston, Canada in May 2022. Eva Egron-Polak and Giorgio Marinoni also visited Queen's University Bader College in the United Kingdom in June 2022. The final report was submitted to the university in July 2022, and Queen's University was awarded the ISAS (2.0) "Planning and Strategy" Internationalization learning badge at the IAU 16<sup>th</sup> General Conference in Dublin on 26 October 2022. The University of Bologna was also awarded the Comprehensive Internationalization learning badge at the General Conference following their completion of the programme in 2019.

### Follow-up Project for the 5<sup>th</sup> Edition of the Global Survey on Internationalization: Analysis of Replies from the Francophone World

Together with the Academy for Research and Higher Education (ARES), Belgium, the IAU conducted a follow up project analysing the results of the 5<sup>th</sup> Global Survey in the Francophone world, which led to the publication of a report entitled "5e Enquête Mondiale de l'AIU sur l'Internationalisation de l'Enseignement Supérieur" [5<sup>th</sup> IAU Global Survey on Internationalization of Higher Education]. The report highlights the differences between trends found in the francophone target group and the overall global or regional trends detailed in the IAU report, as well as between the francophone and francophile sub-groups.

### Sixth edition of the Global Survey on Internationalization of Higher Education

The IAU began the preparations for the 6<sup>th</sup> edition of the Global Survey on Internationalization of Higher Education in 2022. As the first step, the IAU concluded sponsorship agreements for the survey with seven organisations and partnerships with another eight organisations from all around the world. As a second step, the IAU created an Advisory Committee of experts who helped draft the questionnaire in June and July 2022. In October 2022, the pilot phase took place with a group of 14 universities from all regions of the world. The IAU aims to collect data in the first semester of 2023 and to publish the 6<sup>th</sup> Global Survey report at the start of 2024.

## “The Future of Higher Education” Webinar Series on Internationalization

In the framework of the “The Future of Higher Education” webinar series, the following two webinars on internationalization were organised:

1. The webinar “**International research cooperation in a new geopolitical context**” was held on 15 March 2022 in collaboration with the Centre for International Higher Education at Boston College. This session was chaired by Gerardo Blanco, Associate Professor & Academic Director, Center for International Higher Education, Boston College and included the following speakers: Jenny Lee, Professor at the Center for the Study of Higher Education and College of Education, University of Arizona, U.S.A; Ahmed Bawa, Chief Executive Officer, Universities South Africa; and Carolina Guzmán Valenzuela, Professor of higher education, Universidad de Tarapacá, Chile.
2. The second webinar, “**The Importance of International Cooperation in Higher Education**”, was held on 5 April 2022 in collaboration with Qatar University. This session was chaired by Pam Fredman, 2016–2022 IAU President, and welcomed the following speakers: Hassan Rashid Al-Derham, President, Qatar University; Jacques Frémont, President, University of Ottawa; Ignacio Sánchez Díaz, President, Pontifical Catholic University of Chile; Ellen Dixon, Steering Committee member, Global Student Forum; and Camille Salinesi, Vice-president international relations, Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne.

## Network of International Education Associations (NIEA)

Despite the difficulties resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, NIEA members were able to meet virtually at the CAEI conference on 20 October 2021 and at the FAUBAI conference on 27 April 2022. Members of the network prepared and submitted a policy brief, *The Continuing Need for Internationalization of Higher Education*, to the third UNESCO World Higher Education Conference (WHEC2022). The Network of International Education Associations (NIEA), coordinated by the IAU, met in person for the first time in three years at the EAIE conference in Barcelona on 15 September 2022.

## Future of Internationalization Partnership (FIP) Project

The Future of Internationalization Partnership (FIP) is a three-year project that began in May 2021 and is funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC). The project brings together The Center for International Higher Education (CIHE) at Boston College, the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE) at the University of Toronto, and the IAU.

FIP aims to deepen theoretical understanding of how internationalization is changing in response to global pressures. During the first year, the project conducted a rigorous review of the existing literature on the impact of COVID-19 on internationalization of higher education, which led to the publication of a special issue of CIHE Perspective: “The Internationalization of Higher Education in the Wake of COVID-19: A Rigorous Review of the Literature on Short-Term Impacts”.

The project also designed some questions addressing emerging issues on internationalization to be included in the sixth edition of the IAU Global Survey on Internationalization.

## COST Action – European Network on International Student Mobility: Connecting Research and Practice

Giorgio Marinoni, Manager HE and Internationalization, sits on the Management Committee of COST Action – European Network on International Student Mobility (ENIS): Connecting Research and Practice.

ENIS brings together established researchers, early-career investigators (ECIs) and PhD students from different scientific disciplines, countries, and research communities as well as stakeholders from international offices, international student and study abroad organisations, and different policy levels. ENIS offers comparative and practical insights into international student mobility dynamics by bringing together fragmented knowledge. The main aim of the network is to generate new interdisciplinary and innovative empirical perspectives on the phenomenon and translate these into tangible recommendations for stakeholders. The first ENIS conference was held in Tartu, Estonia on 6-7 October 2022.

## Observatory on Higher Education Transformations

The “Observatory on higher education transformations” has been suspended indefinitely. The Observatory was an initiative of the Institute of Education at National Research University “Higher School of Economics” in Moscow, Russia which brought together the most renowned research centres on higher education around the world to join forces in order to monitor the developments in higher education worldwide.



### Priorities / Internationalization

Contact: Giorgio Marinoni ([g.marinoni@iau-aiu.net](mailto:g.marinoni@iau-aiu.net))

IAU Internationalization:

<https://www.iau-aiu.net/Internationalization>



## Sustainable development

*Strengthening the role of Higher Education for the UN Decade of Action for Sustainable Development and encouraging cooperation between HEIs.*

Initiatives undertaken in the context of the IAU thematic priority Higher Education and Research for Sustainable Development (HESD) include international cooperation projects, capacity building, advocacy and the continuous development of a knowledge hub with publications and online services. Within the UN Decade of Action for Sustainable Development, IAU HESD aims to strengthen the role of Higher Education for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and to encourage cooperation between HEIs with the common objective of transformation for a more sustainable future.

### IAU HESD Cluster: Networking and Capacity Building

The IAU Global Cluster on HESD promotes the role that HEIs globally fulfil to achieve the SDGs and Agenda 2030. Universities engage with the SDGs in multiple ways. Initiated in early 2018, the Cluster brings together 16 universities from around the world, each taking the lead on one SDG. The IAU leads on SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals. More than 80 universities contribute to the sub-clusters. Over three days, from 21 to 23 March, the IAU HESD Cluster leads and satellite institutions met to share, learn and plan for the future. Main discussion topics included how universities can engage with the SDGs and the importance of a whole institutional approach to SD. Thanks to the inspiring contributions of all participants, two key documents for the future commitment of the IAU HESD Cluster were finalised:

1. The statement on the **Joint Vision from the IAU Higher Education for Sustainable Development (HESD) Cluster Members**
2. The **Strategy and Working Plan 2022-2024**

### 3<sup>rd</sup> IAU HESD Survey

The 3<sup>rd</sup> IAU HESD Survey was launched in Spring 2022. The survey used the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs as a framework to foster better understanding of how HEIs engage with SD, how they work, who is conducting this work at the institutional level and which SDGs are emphasised. 464 valid responses from 120 countries were collected. The survey was organised in collaboration with the following partners: Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF), Conferencia de Rectores de Universidades Españolas (CRUE), and The Monitoring and Evaluating Climate Communication and Education Project (MECCE). The data gathered will be presented in a comprehensive outcome report to be launched in January 2023.



### Key UN Events for HESD

IAU coordinated the education for sustainable development (ESD) Session at the UNESCO World Higher Education Conference (WHEC22)

For details, see page 9.

### UN High Level Political Forum (HLPF)

For the fourth consecutive year, the IAU was an active participant at the virtual High Level Political Forum (HLPF) 2022. Highlights included the Award Ceremony of the International Green Gown Awards (IGGAs), the annual Higher Education Sustainability Initiative (HESI) event, and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) Workshop with ACU and AUF, Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) and Global Schools, *My World Mexico*, and York University on *Transformative Education, Digital Learning, and Partnerships toward a more Sustainable and Equitable Future*. As in previous years, the IAU engaged its Members and partner organisations in these HLPF events and the mobilisation of higher education for SDGs.

### UN Ocean Conference

In contribution to the UN Ocean Conference 2022, the IAU and the University of Bergen worked together to host an official side event. The event discussed “Scaling up action and building effective partnerships for SDG14: the essential roles of higher education and business”. This partnership also welcomed insights from the Government of Ireland, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN-DESA),

United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States and The Partnering Initiative (TPI).

## Partnerships for HESD

IAU HESD work supports UNESCO initiatives, in particular the ESD initiatives and The Futures of Education and Higher Education initiatives. Furthermore, the IAU works in synergy with partner networks to further enhance the work on HESD.

Projects conducted with partners during the period under review include:

- ▶ **Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU) & Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie (AUF):** ACU, AUF and the IAU are in regular contact on HESD, for UN-events such as TES and HLPF, and other cooperation. The IAU was invited to present at the AUF Gender Equality Consortium (16 May 2022).
- ▶ **Higher Education Sustainability Initiative (HESI):** As a consistently active participant in meetings and discussions, the IAU was invited to speak at a HESI webinar in June 2022.
- ▶ **Monitoring and Evaluation of Climate Change Education (MECCE):** The IAU is a partner in the MECCE project in Axis 2: Knowledge management. MECCE went into its third year and mobilised the global research team to contribute to COP27, in close cooperation with Unesco. Furthermore, MECCE was a partner in the IAU HESD Survey 2022 and thanks to this cooperation included Climate Change Education (CCE) in the questionnaire.
- ▶ **Regional Centres of Expertise on ESD:** The IAU sits on the Ubuntu Committee of Peers and advises the UNU-RCE network. Many IAU Member institutions host an RCE.
- ▶ **SDG Impact Assessment Tool:** The IAU organised virtual workshops with Gothenburg University, Karolinska Institute, and SDSN Northern Europe (June 2022) to bring the tool closer to IAU Members.
- ▶ **Student Organisations and Projects:** The IAU works with Students Organising for Sustainability (SOS), Erasmus Student Network (ESN) on Internationalization and Green Mobility, the Global Student Forum (GSF) and others.
- ▶ **Sulitest & Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) France:** IAU Secretary General Hilligje van't Land is on the leadership council and advisory board of each respective association, and the IAU works closely with both.
- ▶ **UNESCO Education for Sustainable Development (ESD):** The IAU was pleased to accept the invitation from UNESCO to be a part of the **ESD-Net 2030** which launched in

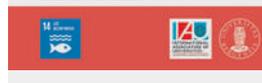
October 2022 following the success of the previous Global Action Programme (GAP).

- ▶ **United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC):** The IAU's valuable partnership with UNODC persists, and now focuses the new Global Resource for Anti-Corruption Education and Youth Empowerment (GRACE) initiative. The IAU was invited to speak at several UNODC virtual events and is exploring further collaboration in the context of GRACE.

## HE Engages with the SDGs

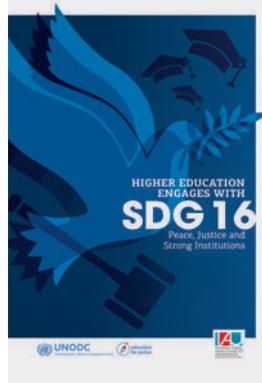


HIGHER EDUCATION AND  
SDG 14: Integrating Ocean  
Research for the Global Goals  
PUBLICATIONS COLLECTION OF PEPPER HANSENBERG, IRENE  
UNIVERSITY FOR BERGEN AND THE INTERNATIONAL  
ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITIES



The IAU has continued its series of publications about the HE engagement with the 17 SDGs. After SDG 13 in 2019 and SDG 5 in March 2021, two other publications were launched at the end of 2021:

1. **Higher Education and SDG 14: Integrating Ocean Research for the Global Goals**, jointly written by the IAU and the University of Bergen. This publication includes 11 unique article contributions which discuss Life Below Water and the links between SDG 14 and other SDGs.



HIGHER EDUCATION  
ENGAGES WITH  
SDG 16  
Peace, Justice and  
Strong Institutions



2. **IAU-UNODC Young Scholars Competition: Higher Education engages with SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions**, was published in cooperation with UNODC and includes articles from Young Scholars. The publication

was launched at a virtual event on 21 November 2022 which hosted a discussion with the authors.

IAU calls for participation in the IAU Global Cluster for Higher Education and Research for Sustainable Development (HESD)

As well, IAU calls for expressions of interest for publications on the role of higher education in addressing any of the SDGs.



## ▶ Priorities / Sustainable Development (HESD)

Contact: Isabel Toman ([i.toman@iau-aiu.net](mailto:i.toman@iau-aiu.net))  
IAU Global Portal on HESD: [www.iau-hesd.net](http://www.iau-hesd.net)  
IAU HESD: <https://www.iau-aiu.net/HESD>



## Digital transformation of higher education

*Harnessing the potential of technology to improve access to a quality higher education.*



**Above:** Meeting of the IAU EAG at SNSPA in Romania

**Below:** Trine Jensen presenting on the IAU Global Survey on the Impact of COVID-19 in Dublin at the IAU 16<sup>th</sup> GC

Work undertaken under this thematic priority can be grouped under four key functions of the IAU:

### 1) Normative function

#### IAU Policy Statement: Transforming Higher Education in the Digital World for the Global Common Good

During a time that has seen an unprecedented acceleration of digital transformation at universities around the world, the IAU is pleased to announce the official endorsement of the new IAU Policy Statement: *Transforming Higher Education in a Digital World*

for the Global Common Good at the IAU 16<sup>th</sup> General Conference (October 2022). The Policy Statement outlines essential values and principles that must underpin digital transformation. Work on the Policy Statement began in 2018 when an Expert Advisory Group (EAG) was established, bringing together experts and Administrative Board members from different regions of the world. The EAG steered the development of the statement, with numerous exchanges on priorities to be outlined and the essential values and principles common to all, irrespective of backgrounds and local contexts.

The Policy Statement has gone through an extensive consultative process: from a Membership consultation to student leaders and associations in order to ensure that diverse perspectives were well addressed. The IAU is grateful to all those who took part and contributed to the development of the Policy Statement.

Within the framework of the Policy Statement, the IAU will continue to nurture a shared commitment to build a humanistic, ethical, inclusive and purpose-based digital transformation of higher education for the global common good as part of its new Strategy 2030. Read the Policy Statement here: <https://www.iau-aiu.net/New-IAU-Policy-Statement>

### 2) Monitoring function

Digital transformation forms part of the trends monitored through the IAU Global Survey Report on the Impact of

COVID-19 on Higher Education (see page 22). To complement the information collected, two additional projects have been carried out:

### A qualitative follow-up project to the IAU Global Survey Report on the Impact of the pandemic on Higher Education

This project focused on two specific aspects: namely, teaching & learning and internationalization. Universities were invited to provide more detailed information about the transformation and their plans for the future in order to grasp current challenges and the types of changes occurring in a context where the reliance on digital means is no longer by force as it was the case during confinement periods, but rather one of choice. The Report of the project will be released in the beginning of 2023, but the preliminary findings on teaching & learning were presented during the IAU 16<sup>th</sup> General Conference in Dublin.

### Monitoring digital transformation of administrative services

The IAU partnered with a research group of the Politecnico di Milano (PoliMi) to carry out a global survey on the state of digital transformation in the administrative services of higher education institutions (HEIs). A pilot paper presenting the methodology and experience will be published in 2023.

## 3) Capacity Building and Peer-to-Peer Learning through International Collaboration

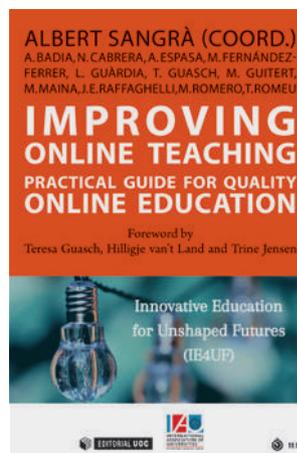
### Innovative Doctoral Course for Sustainability (IDOCOS)

The IDOCOS project is implemented in partnership with KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Sweden, University of Bergen and Nordic Insight in Norway. IDOCOS combines an innovative approach to co-creation and sharing with relevant, existing building blocks and has the following objectives:

1. Fostering co-creation and sharing of digitalised courses and open learning materials prepared for quality online, flexible and blended teaching and learning.
2. Adopting a scalable and robust methodology for co-creation and sharing of digitalised courses.
3. Promoting access to shared courses and open learning materials for teaching and learning.
4. Building competencies for digital transformation.

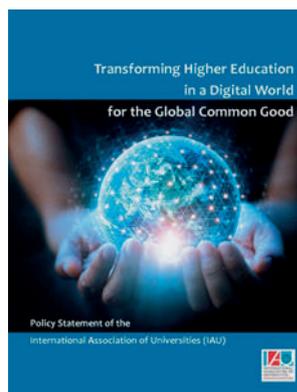
A doctoral course on Digital Transformation is proposed to PhD students from around the world, and a Handbook on Co-creation and Sharing is also available online for those who wish to learn more: [www.idocos.eu](http://www.idocos.eu)

### IAU and UOC collaboration: Innovative Education for Unshaped Futures (IE4UF)



As a follow up to the partnership with Open University of Catalonia (UOC) regarding the online webinar series entitled Innovative Education for Unshaped Futures (IE4UF), the IAU is pleased to announce that a Handbook has been released on Quality Online Learning.

## 4) Advocacy



Throughout the year, the IAU has participated in several conferences and webinars to present on digital transformation in higher education and current transformations. Beyond presenting the data of the monitoring projects, it is also an opportunity to advocate for the principles and values outlined in the IAU Policy Statement.

Another way of advocating for the principles and values upheld by the Association is through articles. This year, the IAU contributed a piece to, amongst others, the Global Learning Report 2022 on Digital Transformation in Higher Education.



### → Priorities / Digital transformation

Contact: Trine Jensen ([t.jensen@iau-aiu.net](mailto:t.jensen@iau-aiu.net))

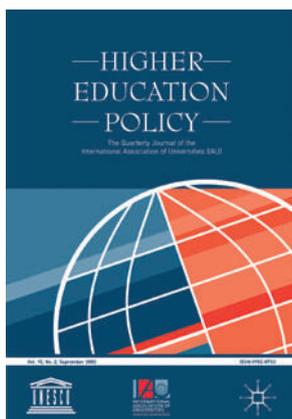
IAU Digital Transformations:

<https://www.iau-aiu.net/technology>

## KNOWLEDGE HUB

### News and Publications

#### Higher Education Policy Journal



The Association's primary research publication is the quarterly journal *Higher Education Policy* (HEP), published by Springer Nature, and which is now on its 35<sup>th</sup> volume. The journal publishes original analyses, whether theoretical, empirical or practice-based, and the range of coverage extends from case studies of developments in individual institutions, to broad examination of policy-making at

the system, national and regional levels, offering an academic, comparative perspective on a variety of topics in higher education, including thematic issues with guest editors. The most recent thematic issue was on the *Impact of COVID-19 on Higher Education: Policy Implications for Student Mobility, Teaching and Learning, Research and University Governance* (September 2022). All IAU Members receive a subscription to HEP.

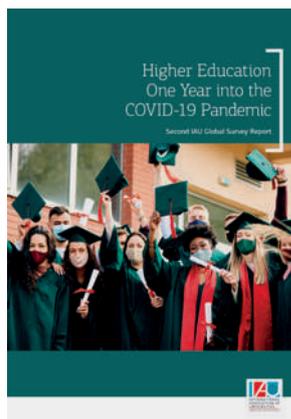
#### IAU Horizons



Published twice a year, *IAU Horizons* features the Association's activities, upcoming events, strategic priorities, membership information and IAU publications. Each issue also sheds light on a special 'In Focus' topic, providing perspectives from authors from around the world. Vol. 26, no. 2 was released in December 2021 focusing on: *Leadership for a Sustainable Future – Higher Education and Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals*. The first issue in 2022 (Vol. 27, no.1) was

dedicated to the topic *Reinventing Higher Education?* This edition formed part of the IAU's contribution to the UNESCO World Higher Education Conference (WHEC), bringing together 39 articles discussing the future of higher education.

#### Second edition of the IAU Global Survey on the Impact of COVID-19 on Higher Education



In 2021, the IAU conducted the Second Global Survey to monitor the initial impact of the pandemic on higher education. The Survey Report was published on 1 March 2022 offering a comprehensive picture of how higher education institutions have been affected by the difficult conditions under which they were operating during the pandemic. The report covers a broad institutional perspective, looking at

governance, teaching and learning, research and community/ societal engagement. 496 higher education institutions from 112 countries and territories responded to the survey. The report presents the results at the global level as well as by region. It also compares trends among public and private higher education institutions.

#### E-Newsletter

10 times a year, the IAU E-Newsletter keeps Members and partners updated about initiatives and opportunities for engagement in the work of the Association. It furthermore highlights Members' news and global learning opportunities. Members are invited to share the Newsletter internally and share in their networks as appropriate.

#### Global HESD Portal

The IAU HESD global portal is a tool developed by the IAU for its Members, partners and the general public; it provides access to university actions and more initiatives developed around the world to promote sustainability and SDGs. The portal is constantly growing and lists over 550 News items, 450+ events, and more than 1400 Actions from 1200+ universities and 285 organisations globally.



## World Higher Education Database (WHED)

Mapping the higher education landscape has been one of the IAU's main tasks since its foundation in 1950: first through the International List of Universities, then the International Handbook of Universities and the World List of Universities, now fully online through the World Higher Education Database ([www.whed.net](http://www.whed.net)). The WHED is continuously updated and lists all accredited and recognised universities in the world, as well as information on all national education systems.

In 2021-22 the IAU WHED Team successfully completed the update of the European region. Furthermore, Latin America and the Caribbean region is now also complete and awaiting finalisation, pending confirmation of Brazilian and Mexican private institutions from their official reference sites.

### The WHED and the Digitalisation of Higher Education

In 2019, the IAU introduced a system of **unique identifiers – the Global WHED ID** – for each HEI listed in the WHED. This unique code has gained additional importance in the digitalisation of higher education over this past year. It is essential for the clear and unambiguous identification of accredited HEIs.

The Global WHED ID can be used in new technologies for recognition, information and quality assurance purposes and has been integrated into HR systems, student tracking and applications systems, international surveys and used by researchers to track the expansion and trends in higher education.

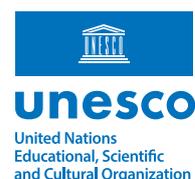
### The WHED as a Facilitator of Academic Mobility

The data in the WHED remains a key resource for the realisation of the *UNESCO Global Convention on the Recognition of Qualifications concerning Higher Education* and its aim to facilitate academic and professional mobility. Activities in line with this task have included presentations at key events discussing future trends in recognition, including the ENIC – NARIC (European Network of Information Centres in the European Region – National Academic Recognition Information Centres in the European Union) General Assembly in Dublin in cooperation with the Council of Europe and UNESCO and the Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) Conference.

The ENIC NARIC network is a key partner of the WHED in the field of recognition and data provision. The interaction has strongly intensified throughout the years with mutual



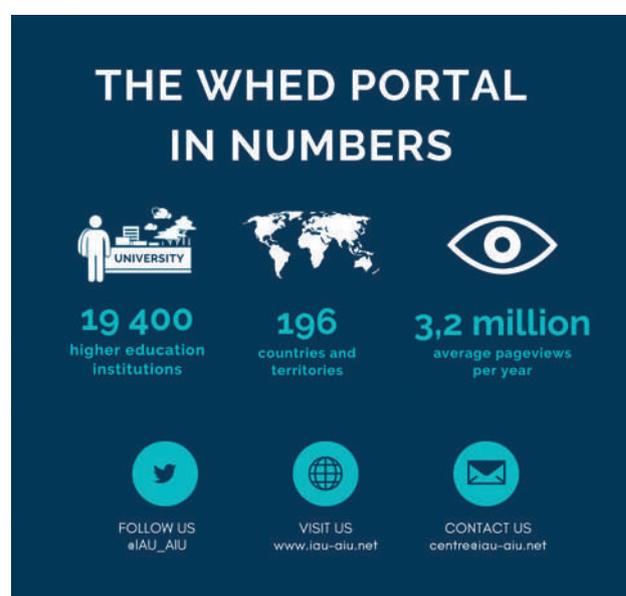
In collaboration with:



representations in IAU webinars and ENIC NARIC Annual Conferences. IAU Deputy Secretary General, Dr Andreas Corcoran, has represented the IAU on the Administrative Board of the European Tertiary Education Registry and the Steering Committee of the EU-funded DigiNet project for the digital integration of credentials.

The IAU partners with the Italian recognition agency CIMEA (Information Centre on Academic Mobility and Equivalence) to provide users with a secure wallet to store their academic certificates (Diplome application) for which the information on HEIs is verified against WHED data.

The search for a sustainability model for the WHED has continued, primarily by reaching out to stakeholders and creating partnerships. Income for the WHED has been generated through selling data extractions to clients such as UN agencies, international organisations, private companies, and universities.



## New Members

### Institutions

Murdoch University Australia	
Mingachevir State University Azerbaijan	
The College of Service Business Bosnia and Herzegovina	
Preah Sihanoniraja Buddhist University Cambodia	
University of Calgary Canada	
Higher Institute of Commerce of Kisangani Democratic Republic of the Congo	
University Paris 8 – Vincennes – Saint-Denis France	
University of Applied Sciences Berlin Germany	
University of Education Heidelberg Germany	
Université de Technologie d'Haïti Haïti	
GNA University India	
Nims University India	
Reva University India	
Symbiosis International University (Deemed University) India	
Duhok Polytechnic University Iraq	
University for Foreigners of Siena Italy	
University of Messina Italy	
University of Padua Italy	
Attahadi Medical Al-Ahlia University (Attahadi University) Libia	
BlueCrest University College Liberia	
International Islamic University Malaysia Malaysia	
Technologic University of Aguascalientes Mexico	
Universidad Autónoma de Baja California Mexico	
University of Pacific Nicaragua	
Edo State University Uzairue Nigeria	

University of Abuja Nigeria	
Inland Norway University of Applied Sciences Norway	
University of Coimbra Portugal	
"Dunarea de Jos" University of Galati Romania	
Hormuud University Somalia	
Luleå University of Technology Sweden	
Mid Sweden University Sweden	
University of Lucerne Switzerland	
King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi Thailand	
University of Manouba Tunisia	
Dokuz Eylul University Türkiye	
State Energy Institute of Turkmenistan Turkmenistan	
Canadian University Dubai United Arab Emirates	
Francis Marion University USA	
The Chicago School of Professional Psychology USA	
Universidad de la República Uruguay	
Women's University in Africa Zimbabwe	

### Affiliates

European Women Rectors Association Belgium	
International Education Association of South Africa South Africa	
Education Sub Saharan Africa United Kingdom	
National Education Opportunities Network United Kingdom	

### Organisations

UArctic (University of the Arctic) Finland	
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# MEMBERSHIP

## IAU Global Membership Outreach

In the Summer and Autumn, the IAU invited Members to participate in dynamic Membership Engagement Meetings online. These meetings allowed Members to propose new ideas and suggestions to the Secretariat to better shape the future mission and vision of the Association, as well as projects, goals, and direction of the IAU's work. Over 120 Members met with IAU Board members and members of the Secretariat to discuss the future of the Association and how their institution or organisation can become more involved. The meetings were framed by a set of guiding questions, but the conversations were encouraged to develop naturally. As a result, conversation topics spanned from the broad – how can the IAU shape the language of the higher education sector to be more collaborative than competitive – to the specific – how can the IAU streamline communication channels to be more focused on the four priority areas? Key takeaways were primarily used

to inform the IAU 2030 Strategy as it was presented to the participants at the 16<sup>th</sup> General Conference. The translation of the IAU Strategy into a first four year plan of action will be developed by the newly elected Board using the inputs collected from the Members.

## 611 Members on 30 September 2022

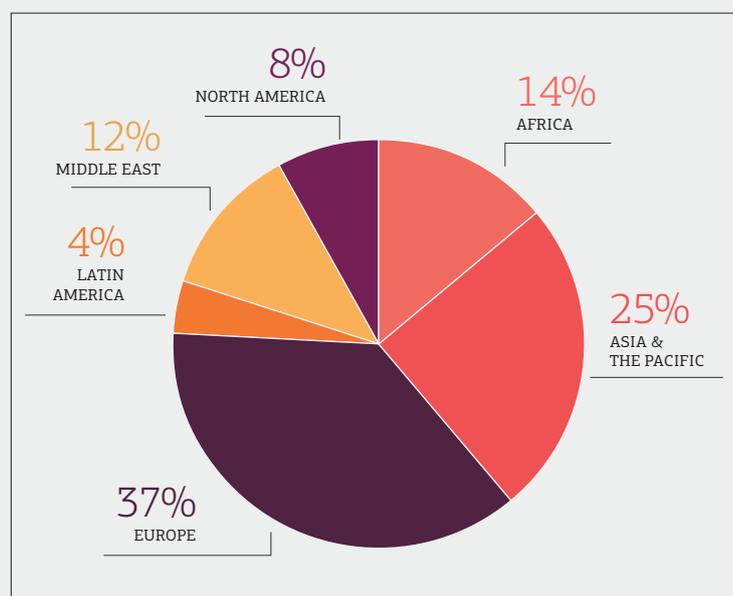
Membership is at the heart of IAU's mission. The Association is committed to engage with Members and new Members of the higher education community from around the world to foster strong higher education systems and institutions around the world.

➔ Information on Membership Fees and on How to Apply is available online: <https://iau-aiu.net/Join-IAU>

## Membership Categories and Numbers

The following charts give an overview of IAU Membership in terms of numbers and geographical distribution for the period from 1 October 2021 to 30 September 2022.

**Figure 1** – Geographical distribution of IAU Members Institutions (as of 30 September 2021)



**Table 1** – Number of members per category

Member Type	Amount 2022 (as of 30 Sept)
INSTITUTIONS	551
ORGANISATIONS	31
AFFILIATES	19
ASSOCIATES	10
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>611</b>

IAU is also very pleased to count on the invaluable support of 6 Senior Fellows who inform the IAU work in the framework of IAU priority areas of work.

# PARTNERSHIPS

Beyond its Membership, IAU collaborates with a wide range of partners at both governmental and non-governmental levels. We are grateful to all our partners for their commitment, support, and engagement throughout the year. We look forward to our continued collaboration. The IAU webpage on partnerships provides for brief insights into the projects in which the IAU engages.

## INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS



## INTERNATIONAL AND NATIONAL PARTNERS



# FINANCIAL REPORT

This Financial Report presents the IAU financial years 2021 (from 1 October 2020 to 30 September 2021) and 2022 (from 1 October 2021 to 30 September 2022).

INCOME (in K Euro)	2021	2022
Membership fees	1 055	1 088
Programmes and activities	81	74
Knowledge hub, including reference publications	97	76
International Conferences	0	0
Other income	112	159
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>1 345</b>	<b>1 396</b>
EXPENDITURE (in K Euro)	2021	2022
Programme and activities	25	36
Knowledge hub, including reference publications	67	71
International Conferences	0	0
Administrative Board and Executive Committee Meetings	0	1
Administrative and office costs	187	240
Staff cost (salaries, social charges, interns)	1 039	1 045
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>1 318</b>	<b>1 393</b>
<b>IAU Annual Financial Result</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>3</b>

## Explanatory notes:

### INCOME

The IAU's income is generated through annual membership fees, project and initiative grants, contracts and IAU publications. All incomes are cost covering.

### EXPENDITURE

The Association's expenditures have been controlled tightly in order to retain a balanced budget. This has been possible by keeping personnel expenses and other administrative costs at a minimum, while ensuring funding for projects and initiatives.

### SPECIAL MEASURES

In light of the war in Ukraine, membership fees for 2021-2022, as well as the otherwise outstanding dues for all Ukrainian members have been waived. The IAU has also selectively considered fee waivers for universities in other countries in crisis. We thank all Members for making this possible and for ensuring that the Association remains inclusive, supportive and truly representative.

To support the IAU vision, mission and initiatives financially, please contact [a.corcoran@iau-aiu.net](mailto:a.corcoran@iau-aiu.net)

# SECRETARIAT

The International Universities Bureau is the permanent Secretariat of the Association. The offices are housed at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris, France.

Positions are reflective of the period of 1 October 2021 to 30 September 2022:



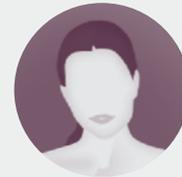
**Hilligje van't Land**  
Secretary General and  
Executive Director



**Andreas Corcoran**  
Deputy Secretary General



**Saholi  
Andriambololo-Nivo**  
Assistant, Reference Publications



**Justine Evans**  
Communication  
and Media



**Jessica Huang**  
Assistant, Administration  
and Membership



**Trine Jensen**  
Manager, HE and Digital  
Transformation, Publication  
and Events



**Giorgio Marinoni**  
Manager, HE and  
Internationalization Policy  
and Projects



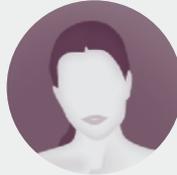
**Angella Nino**  
Manager, Finances  
and Administration



**Nicholas Poulton**  
Information and  
Publication Officer



**Samuel Pousson**  
Assistant,  
Reference Publications



**Georgeta Sadlak**  
Manager,  
Information Systems



**Carine Sébast**  
Manager,  
Reference Publications



**Isabel Toman**  
Programme Officer, HESD

## INTERNS



**Margaret Harris**  
Events and Membership  
intern, Sciences Po Paris



**Emma Furlan**  
HESD intern, University of  
Paris I: Panthéon-Sorbonne



**Elisa Guidi**  
Internationalization intern,  
University of Florence



**Corinna You**  
HESD intern, Cornell  
University

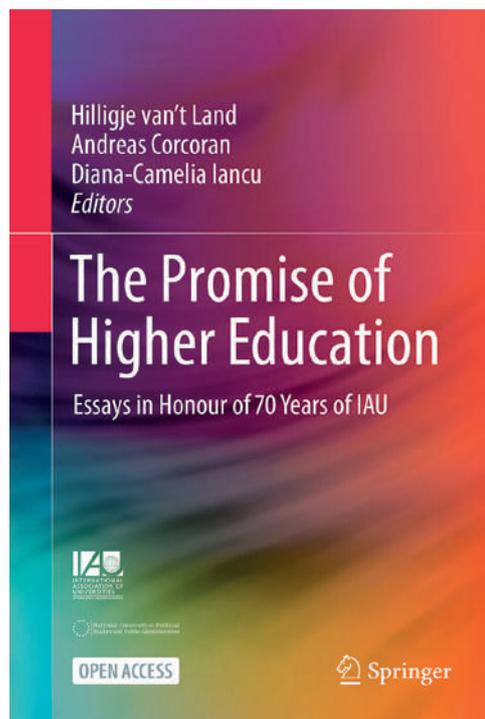
## Follow IAU on...



**As an IAU Member,  
you can increase your  
visibility on the  
IAU website:**

- ➔ Share your news in IAU News from Members
- ➔ Advertise your events in the Global Calendar
- ➔ Showcase your initiatives on IAU specialized portals

[www.iau-aiu.net](http://www.iau-aiu.net)



See: <https://iau-aiu.net/Publications>

IAU – INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITIES / INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITIES BUREAU. Servicing its institutional and organizational members and beyond, IAU provides a forum for building a worldwide higher education community, promotes exchange of information, experience and ideas, contributes, through research, publication and advocacy to higher education policy debate.

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IAU International Association of Universities, UNESCO House, 1, rue Miollis – F-75732, Paris Cedex 15 – France

Tel: + 33 1 45 68 48 00 – Fax: + 33 1 47 34 76 05 – E-mail: [iau@iau-aiu.net](mailto:iau@iau-aiu.net) – Internet: [www.iau-aiu.net](http://www.iau-aiu.net)

Save the dates  
**From Dublin to Doha**



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International Conference  
**Higher Education with Impact:  
the Importance of Intercultural  
Learning and Dialogue**

25-27 November 2023

[Open to all]

IAU Global Meeting of Associations (GMA)

25 November 2023

[Meeting exclusively open to leaders of higher education  
organization, associations and networks]

Hosted by Qatar University



جامعة قطر  
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