

ANNUAL  
REPORT

1 OCT 2020 - 30 SEPT 2021

# IAU

The global voice of  
higher education

70  
1950-2020

20  
21

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	Message from the IAU President	9	THEMATIC PRIORITIES	21	PARTNERSHIPS
2	Message from the IAU Secretary General	9	Values-Based Leadership	22	GOVERNANCE
3	Vision, Mission and Functions	10	Sustainable Development	23	IAU ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD 2016-2022
4	GLOBAL EVENTS	12	Internationalization	24	IAU SECRETARIAT
4	Celebrating 70 Years of IAU	13	Digital Transformation of Higher Education		
6	IAU Webinar Series: The Future of Higher Education	14	Other Projects and Initiatives		
7	Global Meeting of Associations (GMA)	15	KNOWLEDGE HUB		
7	Meeting of Affiliates	15	News and Publications		
8	SPECIAL INITIATIVES IN TIME OF PANDEMIC	16	World Higher Education Database (WHED)		
8	Global Survey on the Impact of COVID-19 on Higher Education	18	MEMBERSHIP		
8	COVID-19 Resource Pages for Higher Education	18	Membership Categories and Numbers		
		19	New Members		
		20	FINANCIAL REPORT		



## Message from the President



Celebrating 70 years of the IAU as the global voice of higher education has been the highlight of the year 2021. IAU started the celebrations on 9 December 2020, on the exact date that the founding Members signed the IAU constitution in Nice, France in 1950. On this anniversary date IAU convened members of the Administrative Board, institutional and organizational Members, partners and friends for an online celebratory webinar to reflect on IAU's important role at the global level, the academic values that it has been promoting over the past 70 years and the way forward. 82 authors contributed a series of 65 short essays in the celebratory publication: *The Promise of Higher Education: Essays in Honour of 70 Years of IAU*. A special issue of the Association's magazine, *IAU Horizons* was dedicated to the history of the Association, and finally, I invite you to look at the fantastic videos by our Members, partners and friends from around the world. My sincere and warm thanks to all for your contributions and engagement.

Yet, although it has been a great pleasure to rejoice this important milestone anniversary of the Association, the celebrations have been taking place in a time where we are still facing an ongoing pandemic, and where many higher education institutions are operating in a context of high uncertainty. IAU continued to adapt its activities and has proposed a range of different services and activities with the aim to support the higher education community by fostering a space for sharing experiences, solutions and ideas to meet the challenges and to discuss how to build on this experience to shape the future during a time of pandemic. The second global survey on the impact of the pandemic on higher education was conducted to monitor the situation and how higher education institutions are coping during these challenging times.

With the members of the Administrative Board, I had to take the difficult decision to postpone the IAU 16<sup>th</sup> General Conference for another year; we look forward to welcoming you all welcome you all from around the world to University College Dublin (UCD) in Ireland from 25 to 28 October 2022. Please plan to attend as this is a particularly important event in the life of the Association as Members will be able to elect the next President, the members of the Administrative Board and decide on the next strategic plan of the Association. Your presence is essential and highly valued.

It is positive to note that meetings online – as a complement to physical meetings – have shown an increased participation from all over the globe to share and exchange about challenges faced and opportunities offered. The collective local and regional experience is of utmost importance at the global level.

IAU is in the final phase of the development of a new policy statement on Transforming Higher Education in a Digital World, which has only gained further momentum at this time where the pandemic has led to an accelerated digital transformation and the impacts of this has been discussed in the joint IAU-UOC series on *Innovative Education for Unshaped Futures*.

Agenda 2030 and the pursuit of the related and interconnected Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are more pressing than ever and IAU is responding to the call for action with the global IAU Cluster on Higher Education for Sustainable Development (HESD). Through webinars, publications and active engagement in various policy events, such as the UN High Level Political Forum and the UNESCO World Conference on ESD, IAU provides knowledge and advocates for the key role of HESD.

IAU has also further strengthened its cooperation with Member organizations, affiliates and partners including UNESCO and you will learn more throughout the report along with several other activities. With your contributions and input, IAU will continue to pursue its mission as the global network and voice of higher education.

I wish to end by thanking our Secretary General, Hilligje van't Land, and her staff for their outstanding work and contributions to the activities presented in this annual report.

**Pam Fredman**  
IAU President

## Message from the Secretary-General



The International Association of Universities is pleased to present you with this Annual Activities Report 2021. The 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations of our Association highlighted the year. We hope you enjoyed the celebratory events, including the webinars and “The Promise of Higher Education”, the book honouring 70 years of higher education cooperation and partnership. We thank all Members and partners for their exceptional contributions to the festive activities.

The year was marked once more by the crisis induced by COVID-19, but it was also marked by genuine learning and by the remarkable agility and resilience of the higher education sector. Despite setbacks, and even if things can be improved, higher education stakeholders have adapted to the changes brought about by the health, economic and social challenges.

The first Global Survey Report on the impact of COVID-19 and the data collected for the second IAU Global Survey, carried out in 2021, and which Report launch is in February 2022 confirmed this transformation. We will continue to monitor the situation and accompany the higher education sector through the services we offer and activities we organise.

The increased demand for education and higher education, for skilling, upskilling and reskilling call

for a reimagining of the education to serve society even better. Indeed, the changes in expectations from students, staff, and from society at large, the uncertainty of a future yet to be defined have brought about an increased need to debate the many issues faced and roles that universities and the education sector at large has to play in society. In a time rocked by disinformation, populism, the rise of extremisms, we learn that values-based higher education is more necessary than ever. This aspect has received critical attention during the year. As well, we have multiplied opportunities to exchange and engage in debates around the challenges and the opportunities arising. We offered weekly webinars, (co-)organised joint events, contributed to an increased number of partner events and initiated new projects.

Working globally with our institutional and organisational members and with our partners was a major success in 2021. Future IAU events and activities will include a new series of webinars to discuss the future of higher education. These will help inform key events to come, in particular, the UNESCO World Higher Education Conference (WHEC) in Barcelona in May 2022 and the upcoming IAU 16<sup>th</sup> General Conference in October 2022 which will offer an opportunity to meet face-to-face once again. Leading up to these two significant events in the life of the Association, dedicated meetings will be organised for Members to exchange and shape the future strategic plan for the Association.

We thank all for the tremendous involvement and rich contributions to the debates organised, projects carried out and publications prepared. We look forward to our cooperation in the year ahead and for the next 70 years to come.

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

# VISION, MISSION AND FUNCTIONS

*IAU – The Global Voice of Higher Education*

**VISION** - To contribute to peace and human development by promoting and enhancing the power of higher education to transform lives, build capacity, connect diverse peoples, generate and disseminate new knowledge, create insights and find sustainable solutions to local and global challenges.

**MISSION** - As the global voice of higher education, IAU will be the most influential and representative global association of diverse higher education institutions and their organisations, advocating and advancing a dynamic leadership role for higher education in society. Articulating the fundamental values and principles that underpin education and the pursuit, dissemination and application of knowledge, the Association will lead and advocate the development of higher education policies and practices that respect diverse perspectives promote social responsibility and contribute to the development of a sustainable future. IAU will be a think tank and forum for the development of new approaches, the sharing of best practice and the undertaking of joint action, encouraging and facilitating innovation, mutual learning and cooperation among higher education institutions around the world.



## A standard and trendsetter

IAU ensures regular dialogues with national and international organisations to represent the higher education community in all its diversity, inform policymaking, 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 the different topics of our work. It fosters collaboration, networking and partnerships 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 for Digital Transformation connect universities around the world for exchange on innovations related to digital transformation.



## 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 communication 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.

# GLOBAL EVENTS

## Celebrating 70 years of IAU

### Special Issue of IAU Horizons



The year covered in this Annual Report is not just another year in the life of the Association, it is a year of celebrations as the Association was created on 9 December 1950 in Nice, France during the founding General Conference. While it was foreseen to celebrate this important milestone together with the membership during

our annual conference, the Covid-19 pandemic changed our plans.

As travelling from one place to another became an important challenge in the first year of the pandemic, it was instead possible to start travelling in time through the IAU archives. Years of dust was wiped off and the documents from Board meetings and Annual Reports became the source of reliving and rejoicing 70 years of international collaboration in higher education. This work led to the development of the special anniversary issue of *IAU Horizons* on the occasion of the 70 years of IAU. This special issue presents an itinerary through the history of our Association in form of a brief introduction to the main achievements for each of the seven decades of the Association's existence. This work pays tribute to the achievements of the past, but it is also a way to give the voice back to former colleagues, board members and Members. The magazine shows where the IAU members have been meeting and exchanging, as well as their reflections on

higher education in the context of their time. It provides insights to the tremendous efforts, time and energy that our predecessors have invested to create and shape this Association as you know it today. One that is inclusive. One that allows us to meet and exchange regardless of our backgrounds, beliefs and ideologies. One that transcends borders and regions since the very beginning in 1950, due to our profound belief in the important role of higher education in shaping a better world and contributing to peace.

As the IAU history shows, being a global inclusive Association comes with its challenges, it is composed of a very diverse group of higher education institutions. What binds us together are the fundamental values so eloquently defined by the founding Members in the IAU Constitution:

“Conscious of the fundamental principles for which every university should stand, namely: the right to pursue knowledge for its own sake and to follow wherever the search for truth may lead; the tolerance of divergent opinion and freedom from political interference;

Conscious of their obligation as social institutions to promote, through teaching and research, the principles of freedom and justice, of human dignity and solidarity; to develop mutually material and moral aid on an international level.”

(Preamble, IAU Constitution, signed in 1950)

➡ Access IAU Horizons here:  
[www.iau-aiu.net/IAU-Horizons](http://www.iau-aiu.net/IAU-Horizons)

Conscientes de leur haute mission comme gardiennes de la vie intellectuelle, Conscientes des principes fondamentaux que toute Université doit défendre, notamment le droit et la liberté de rechercher la Science pour elle-même, et que cette recherche puisse connaître la tolérance des opinions opposées, et l'indépendance à l'égard de toute ingérence politique; Conscientes de leur devoir en tant qu'institutions sociales de promouvoir par l'enseignement et la recherche les principes de liberté, de justice et de dignité et de solidarité humaines, de développer l'aide matérielle et morale sur un plan international; Les Universités du Monde, par la voix de leurs représentants à la Conférence de Nice, décident de créer une

Conscious of their high responsibility as guardians of the intellectual life, Conscious of the fundamental principles for which every university should stand, namely: the right to pursue knowledge for its own sake and to follow wherever the search for truth may lead; the tolerance of divergent opinion and freedom from political interference; Conscious of their obligation as social institutions to promote, through teaching and research, the principles of freedom and justice, of human dignity and solidarity; to develop mutually material and moral aid on an international level; The universities of the world, through their representatives assembled in conference at Nice, hereby decide to create an

ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONALE DES UNIVERSITES

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITIES

Nice, le 9 décembre 1950

Nice, 9 December 1950



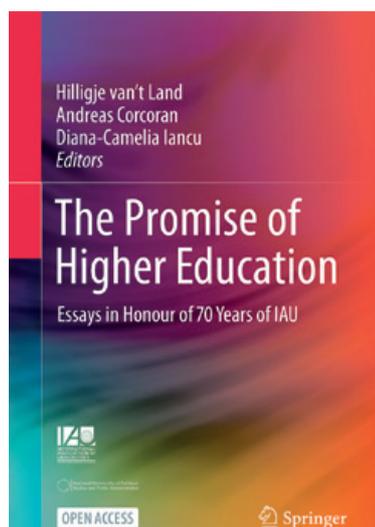
## Voices of Celebration from Around the World

On the actual day of the anniversary - 9 December 2020 – the IAU convened the higher education community for celebrations together online. Chaired by the IAU President Pam Fredman, the webinar brought together statements of support from all regions, from Administrative Board members, from Members in different parts of the world and it also included a special congratulatory message from the organization behind the creation of IAU namely UNESCO. This message was delivered by Stefania Giannini, Assistant Director General for Education. It was a memorable celebration. The recording is available on the IAU YouTube channel.

In addition to this online celebration, IAU received beautiful congratulation messages from Members, partners and friends around the world. These can also be accessed on the IAU website. These short videos reaffirm the importance of the Association and its work to make a difference, build bridges, promote collaboration and free flow of ideas and the pursuit of truth and respect for diversity.

 **Discover the celebrations here:**  
[www.iau-aiu.net/IAU-turns-70](http://www.iau-aiu.net/IAU-turns-70)

## The Promise of Higher Education: Essays in Honour of 70 years of IAU



The celebrations culminated with the publication of the “*The Promise of Higher Education: Essays in Honour of 70 Years of IAU*” which was launched as an open access publication in September.

An anniversary is always a time of reckoning. For the IAU this warrants a pause to reflect

on existential questions about the past, current and future state of the world and the place of higher education within it. How better to do so than through a collection of essays by higher education experts and stakeholders from around the



world that address some of these fundamental issues? This collection of 65 short essays from 82 authors takes the reader on a tour across the global higher education landscape and represents a fine reflection on the past, current and future of higher education. It assembles perspectives and thoughtful reflections on the formidable and powerful role higher education plays in society and how it shapes the agenda of the future. It is a testament to the work of the International Association of Universities as it deals with a wide breadth of themes while maintaining a truly international perspective. IAU was pleasantly surprised by the thematic scope and number of submissions received from all around the world.

IAU is thrilled about the outcome and the attention it has already received with over 160,000 downloads within eight weeks since its publication.

The collection of essays is divided into six sections that cover the following themes: 70 Years of Higher Education Cooperation and Advocacy; Facilitating International Cooperation; Coding the Values; The Changing Landscape; The Promise of Education; Opening up - The Future of Higher Education.

The IAU is grateful to the SNSPA and the Rector, Remus Pricopie, for the generous support provided towards the realisation of this project.

 **Access the publication here:**  
<https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-030-67245-4>

## IAU Webinar Series: The Future of Higher Education

The *IAU Webinar Series: The Future of Higher Education* was first launched in May 2020 as a response to the lockdown making it impossible for IAU to convene its Members face to face on the occasion of its international

annual events. The IAU chose not to pivot its conferences online, but to build an ongoing platform for exchanges on important topics related to higher education through its global webinar series. IAU hosted and co-hosted 29 webinars on leadership, internationalization, digital transformation, sustainable development; it allowed to look at historical developments in the sector and to discuss new trends in academic publishing and the movement towards open science and of course the current state of Academic Freedom. The Association continues to pursue these important exchanges across borders.

### A selection of quotes from the sessions this year:

#### Digital Dimension: No Access! - In a Digital World

“The Covid-pandemic has proven to be a wakeup call for everybody in the higher education community especially for institutions in their efforts to speed up their commitments to widening access via online learning and teaching as well as the shifting modalities for collaborative research. The pandemic has disrupted every aspect of our lives, not least exposing the inequalities that have been for their decades whether they be across, digital, gender, social or educational lines.”

**Peter Wells**, Chief, Section for Higher Education at UNESCO

#### Transformative Innovation and Collaboration for SDG12: Responsible Consumption and Production at Universities

“Our universities will need to be courageous to create new systems of production and consumption that provide abundance, not only for humans but other species as well.”

**Roger Petry**, Professor, Luther College at the University of Regina, Canada & co-team lead for SDG 12 IAU HESD Cluster - 13

#### A Question of Quality: What is a Good University?

“These new generations of students really want us to do better in what we give them and how we use our powerful institutions of knowledge – and they are powerful – to create a better world; and not just to adhere to traditional measures of quality.”

**Mariët Westermann**, Vice-Chancellor, NYU Abu Dhabi, UAE

#### The Digital Dimensions: exploring the different modes of learning

“Online and in person learning are complementary, they are not opposites [...], we should recognize that there are different and valuable characteristic in different spaces. [...] I think of photography as a good metaphor, black & white and colour photography both create wonderful images, they have different strengths and used to emphasize different ideas and create different effects. One is not the deficit version of the other. Photographers may specialize but we all appreciate having both forms. At Deakin University we use both online and in person learning, because that allows us to cater to different students and to offer complementary learning experiences.”

**Liz Johnson**, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Education, Deakin University, Australia

#### The Future of International Collaboration and Academic Partnerships

“Unless there is greater investment in curriculum internationalisation and decolonisation across the board, [I believe] that technology will only reinforce the disparities in knowledge creation and dissemination prevailing in higher education.”

**Kalyani Unkule**, Associate Professor, JGLS and Director & Head of the Office of Alumni Relations, O.P Jindal Global University, India

#### Leadership in an Evolving Context: Looking Back, Current Realities and Future Thinking

“The challenge of university leaders is not a local one but a transnational and global one. For this we need to reimagine the business model which frankly has not been thought through sufficiently in relation to what society expects of these institutions and the changing world we operate in.”

**Adam Habib**, Director of the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London, United Kingdom



## Changing Dynamics in Academic Publishing

“ Academic careers are largely dependent on publications and explains to a certain extent the high inflow of papers to all kind of journals. The question is: is that a good development? I have my questions around that. Do we actually serve those in need of knowledge by keeping this system of performance management in place? I have serious doubts. ”

**Jeroen Huisman**, Editor, Higher Education Policy

## Acting and Educating for Sustainable Development at Universities

“ Higher Education has an unrivalled capacity to shape the knowledge and values, and skills and research that are crucial to societal transition to a low-carbon and safe future, if it can mobilize itself in this direction. ”

**Stephen Sterling**, IAU Senior Fellow and Emeritus Professor, Centre for Sustainable Futures/Sustainable Earth Institute, University of Plymouth, UK

## Higher Education Leadership practices and Leaders for a Sustainable Future

“ Positively impacting communities by working with SDGs and Internationalization is a challenge and a responsibility of Higher Education leaders. ”

**Sandra Guarín**, Director of International Relations of the Antonio Nariño University (UAN), Colombia and SDG 2 IAU HESD Cluster

## IAU Global Meetings of Associations (GMA)



Photo from the GMA held in Puebla, Mexico in 2019 when it was possible to meet in person.

The pandemic has impacted many activities around the world, but there are also several silver linings, for IAU this is the case for its collaboration with its organizational Members and affiliates. Every second year, since 2005, IAU convenes the Global Meeting of Association (GMA) to meet and exchange face to face, each time in a different part of the world. In the context of the pandemic, this forum has been convened more regularly online. Over the past year, the GMA convened twice. Besides exchanging on developments and impact of the pandemic on higher education associations and their members around the world, the group discussed their contribution to the upcoming UNESCO World Higher Education Conference (WHEC) in 2022. As well, a working group to develop the Second IAU Global Survey on the Impact of Covid-19 on Higher Education was established. In the future, when possible again, the Global Meeting of Associations will resume face to face, yet in between these meetings, the IAU will also continue to provide a global platform for exchanges among university associations and organizations around the world online.

## Meeting of Affiliates

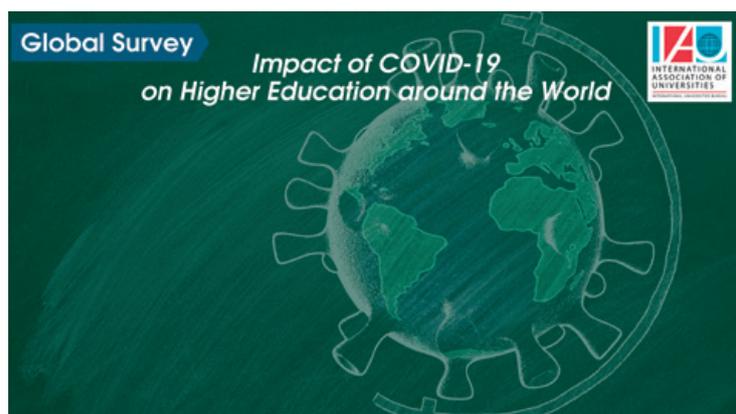
In addition to the Global Meeting of Associations, the IAU convened the Affiliates in a separate meeting to inform about initiatives and activities taking place within the Association, learn more about projects and initiatives of the different Affiliates and network. A first meeting was held in September 2021. The Affiliates will convene annually.



Learn more about the series and discover past sessions:  
<https://iau-aiu.net/IAU-Webinar-Series-on-the-Future-of-Higher-Education-929>

## SPECIAL INITIATIVES IN TIME OF PANDEMIC

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



The first IAU Global Survey on the Impact of COVID-19 on Higher Education was conducted at the very beginning of the pandemic at a time when universities were closing campuses and pivoting from one day to another to remote teaching and learning. This first survey was a short snapshot of the situation at a moment where higher education was facing major disruption in its operation across the world.

In 2021, the IAU developed the second iteration of the IAU Global Survey. The survey was developed in collaboration with several university organization from different parts of the World (see box). The second edition of the survey is a more comprehensive questionnaire with 75 questions on higher education governance, teaching and learning, research and community engagement. The purpose of this survey was to analyse impacts of the pandemic on higher education one year into the crisis it generated.

The data was collected from 15 February to 1 June 2021 and IAU is pleased to report that 496 universities and other higher education institutions from 112 countries and territories in all regions of the world replied to the survey. This sample allows for regional comparison and look at differences and similarities between reports. The report is also looking at trends between public and private higher education institutions. The IAU team analyzed the data and drafted the report in course of the year and while the preliminary findings have already been shared at events around the world, IAU and partners are looking forward to launching the publication in early 2022.

### IAU COVID-19 Resource pages for Higher Education



Through the year the IAU has continued to update its resource pages for higher education stakeholders to provide information, data and access to training and capacity building tools as a way to share and disseminate relevant resources. We thank member, partners and friends who have shared their resources, ideas, news and training solutions during this difficult time of pandemic. This resource page was very much used when established yet was meant as temporary and will be discontinued in 2022.

➔ **Consult the resources:**

<https://www.iau-aiu.net/Covid-19-Higher-Education-challenges-and-responses>

#### MEMBERS OF THE WORKING GROUP FOR THE SECOND IAU GLOBAL SURVEY

- Association of Indian Universities (AIU)
- Agence universitaire de la Francophonie (AUF)
- European University Association (EUA)
- Hungarian Rectors' Conference (HRC)
- NAFSA: Association of International Educators
- The Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU)
- United Nations University, Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS)

# THEMATIC PRIORITIES



## Values-based Leadership

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

### Conversations about leadership

The IAU is an organization that engages primarily with university leaders. Leadership is thus a transversal element in our activities that cuts across all our priorities and reaches beyond university management to a wider group of university leaders. Thought leadership and exchange continued throughout 2021 through webinars - serving as a platform in which ideas are discussed, defined and tested for purpose, communicated to influence and persuade, disseminated among peers and society at large.

University leaders were prompted to identify the challenges of our time, suggest how higher education might address and surmount them, and inspire ways forward. What emerged clearly was that the question 'what kind of university for what kind of society' had received new urgency in light of the pandemic and other major societal and technological transformations.

As part of the IAU Webinars series, we welcomed twenty-six excellent speakers from all continents for vibrant exchanges among university leaders, including board members, on issues impacting leadership roles in an age of uncertainty; current and future trends that will influence leadership decision-making; on re-thinking the question of quality of a university in all its senses; reimagining the future business model of universities; the changing mission of universities over time, as well as on the interdependency of university autonomy and governance.

### Leading Globally Engaged Universities

2021 also saw the preparations for the 8th edition of the Leading Globally Engaged Universities leadership programme. Taking account of the current circumstances, the idea was to transform the former presential LGEU format into a slimmer and more cost-effective LGEU+ programme (no travel, accommodation, catering etc) that could be attended from all around the world online.



This revamped virtual LGEU format for university leaders was to consist of a series of shorter online sessions, thematic workshops and action-learning groups, that would be work-accompanying and thus more accessible to all.

We were impressed by the number of registrations for the LGEU+ Programme. However, in this challenging Covid year, it has been especially difficult for many to ultimately commit financially to the programme- especially for colleagues from lower and middle income countries. In the interest of equity and access, we made the difficult decision to postpone the LGEU programme and seek additional funding to further subsidise the programme. This programme will be reassessed in the future. In the meantime, we continue to offer a variety of leadership engagement opportunities.



### Priorities / Leadership

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



## Sustainable development

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

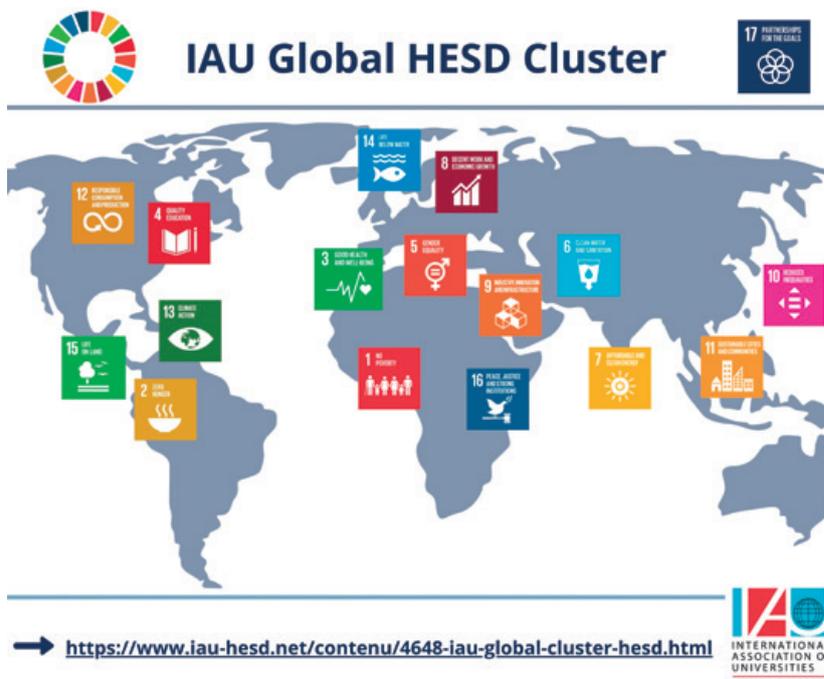
The work undertaken in the context of the IAU priority Higher Education and Research for Sustainable Development (HESD) translates into a series of projects for international cooperation, capacity building, advocacy and into the development of a knowledge hub with publications and online services. The aim is to strengthen the role of Higher Education for the UN Decade of Action for Sustainable Development and to encourage cooperation between HEIs.

### 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 around the globe, each taking the lead on one SDG. IAU leads on SDG 17: Partnerships for the goals. More than 80 universities contribute to the sub-clusters. The activities of the IAU Global HESD Cluster continuously expand. Follow the cluster activities online and on social media. Despite the impact of the pandemic, the IAU Members in the Cluster were active online, including as part of the IAU webinar series on the future of higher education, and at the institutional level.

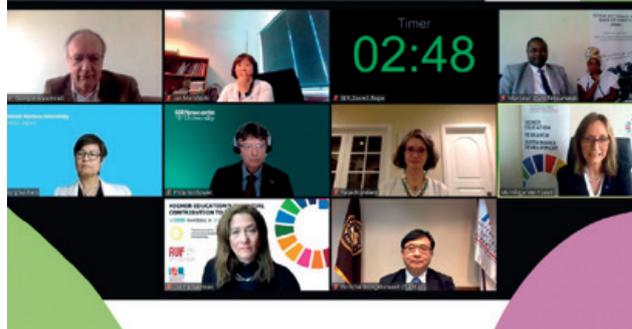
### UNESCO World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development

In May 2021, this key event, organized by UNESCO in cooperation with the Federal Ministry of Education and Research of Germany and with the German Commission for UNESCO, welcomed over 10,000 viewers online. IAU joined over 70 ministers and vice ministers and 2,800 education and environment stakeholders committed to taking concrete steps to transform learning for the survival of our planet. The Berlin Declaration on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) was adopted at the end of the World Conference. IAU actively contributed to the conference. In particular, we coordinated and chaired the session on higher education's role for ESD and the UN SDGs. The expert presentations and discussion during the session included IAU Board Member and chair of the HESD working group, Pornchai Mongkhonvanit, and partner organisations ACU and AUF.



### Higher Education and IAU at the UNESCO World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development

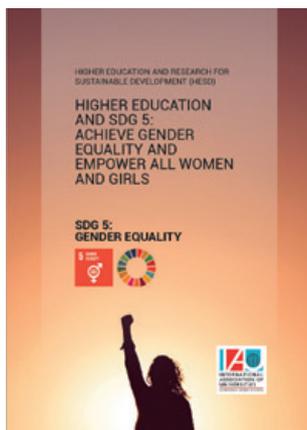
Session 12. Concurrent sessions:  
Putting ESD into action (part B)  
[ESD in Higher Education]



Learn more:

<https://www.iau-hesd.net/news/5089-higher-education-and-iau-unesco-world-conference-education-sustainable-development.html>

## IAU HESD Publications



On the occasion of International Women's Day 2021, IAU and the University of Bologna, Italy, SDG 5 Lead in the IAU Global HESD Cluster, launched a Publication on SDG 5 Gender Equality. The publication collected examples of best practices undertaken by universities around the world on this topic. It is part of the IAU publication series with university actions for the

SDGs, to build new synergies and increasing capacity to act while informing higher education more broadly. Furthermore, it provides evidence to policy and other decision makers in order to stress the important role of higher education for the SDGs. Publications on *SDG 14: Life below water* with the University of Bergen, and *SDG 16: Peace, Justice and strong institutions* with UNODC are being finalized.

➔ **Access the publication here:**

[https://www.iau-hesd.net/sites/default/files/documents/iau\\_sdg5\\_universitiesforequality2021\\_hq.pdf](https://www.iau-hesd.net/sites/default/files/documents/iau_sdg5_universitiesforequality2021_hq.pdf)

## UN High Level Political Forum (HLPF)

For the third year, IAU was an active participant at the virtual HLPF 2021. All events that IAU took part in and co-organized can be found here: <https://iau-aiu.net/HESD?onglet=3>. The virtual events reached impressive participant numbers up to 500 live participants. Some highlights from the HLPF 2021 include the Award Ceremony of the International Green Gown Awards (IGGA), the annual HESI event, and the UNITAR Workshop IAU organized with The Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU), the Agence universitaire de la Francophonie (AUF), and the SDG Academy titled "Filling the gaps in further education for the 2030 Agenda and inspiring action towards the SDGs". This year's engagement confirmed that interest in and relevance of higher education to be more present at the UN level is high, and joint advocacy of associations is important.

## IAU Global HESD Portal on HESD ([www.iau-hesd.net](http://www.iau-hesd.net))

The portal is constantly growing and lists over 500 News items, 400+ events, and more than 1200 Actions from 1000+ Universities and 285 Organizations globally (as of September 2021). In the first half of 2021, with the support of the HESD intern, the portal was analysed and new content added. Furthermore, the Portal underwent major technical updates to become more user-friendly. Together with partners and a student project, IAU is discussing plans to further improve the

portal to better fit the needs of the IAU Members and adapt to the constantly changing and increasing number of initiatives related to sustainable development.

## Partnerships

The IAU HESD work supports UNESCO initiatives, in particular the ESD initiatives, The Futures of Education and Higher Education initiatives, preparations for the World Higher Education Conference (WHEC) 2022.

In 2021, IAU formalised its cooperation with UNODC and was granted the implementing partner status. IAU and UNODC developed a Young Scholars Competition for research papers on SDG 16 and Higher Education in early 2021. The award winning papers are bundled in a publication launched in November 2021.

The Monitoring and Evaluation of Climate Change Education (MECCE) Project welcomed IAU as an organizational partner in the Knowledge management work package. MECCE went into its second year and mobilized the global research team to contribute to COP26.

In addition, the IAU contributes to:

- **Student organizations and projects:** IAU works with Students organizing for Sustainability (SOS) and student groups to also encourage bottom-up approaches. IAU has renewed the cooperation agreement with SOS-UK, a student-led education charity focusing on sustainability, in June 2021. IAU also worked with SOS International on the distribution of their Global Student Sustainability Survey. Similarly, IAU was approached by the C40 initiative on sustainable cities to support the distribution of their call for student projects which resulted in a very inspiring competition.
- **University Global Climate Forum 2020 and projects with Yale Sustainability:** IAU supports the University Global Climate Forum, leading up to COP26 and supporting student projects on Climate Action.
- **UNICA Network of Universities from the Capitals of Europe:** IAU organized a joint event with UNICA in June 2021.
- **Regional Centres of Expertise on ESD:** IAU sits on the Ubuntu Committee of Peers and advises the RCE network. Many IAU Member Institutions host an RCE.
- **HESI Group:** Active participation in meetings and discussions.

➔ **Priorities / Sustainable Development**  
 Contact: Isabel Toman ([itoman@iau-aiu.net](mailto:itoman@iau-aiu.net))  
**IAU Global portal on HESD:** [www.iau-hesd.net](http://www.iau-hesd.net)



## Internationalization

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

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



The ISAS (2.0) *Planning and Strategy service at Queen's University in Canada* was delayed because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The university is conducting the self-assessment exercise, which will lead to a report. In the meantime, the Expert Panel was

formed and it includes **Eva Egron-Polak**, *IAU Senior Fellow and Former Secretary General as chair*, **Alessandra Scagliarini**, *Vice Rector for International Relations, University of Bologna*, **Harvey Charles**, *Dean for International Education and Vice Provost for Global Strategy, University at Albany, State University of New York*, and **Giorgio Marinoni**, *IAU Manager HE and Internationalization*, as panel members. The site visit by the panel of experts is scheduled to take place in 2022.



The "International Strategies Advisory Service's (ISAS) 2020 Impact Evaluation Survey" was conducted in December 2020. 12 out of the 17 Higher Education Institutions which ever undertook an ISAS (2.0) service replied to the online survey. Representatives of 9 of the 12 HEIs that replied to

the survey were also available for follow-up interviews, which were conducted by Sarah Grillo, a 2nd year graduate student in the International Higher Education program at Boston College, who developed the project in the framework of a field placement at IAU. The analysis of both the quantitative and qualitative data led to the publication of a report, which is freely available to download on the IAU website:

[https://iau-aiu.net/IMG/pdf/isas\\_report-compressed.pdf](https://iau-aiu.net/IMG/pdf/isas_report-compressed.pdf)

### New Internationalization Partnership Development Grant

A new Partnership Development Grant awarded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) 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.

Led by Project Director Dr. Elizabeth Buckner, an Assistant Professor in Higher Education at the University of Toronto, this Future of Internationalization Partnership (FIP) aims to deepen theoretical understanding of how internationalization is changing in response to global pressures.

Through mixed methods research, the three-year project will design a new survey module on external pressures to internationalization and conduct case studies of institutional innovations. The project will also engage scholars and practitioners to discuss effective, equitable, and sustainable forms of internationalization in higher education. One of the most important aspects of the grant will be to translate research findings into profiles of good practice and resources for institutional leaders.

SSHRC Partnership Development Grants provide one to three years of support to institutional and organizational partners to foster innovative research, training and the co-creation of new knowledge, while promoting quality training, mentoring and employability opportunities for students and emerging scholars.

### Network of International Education Associations, NIEA

Three virtual NIEA meetings were organised in November 2020, March and June 2021, the last one officially hosted by NAFSA: Association of International Educators during their virtual conference.

NIEA members are working on a policy paper to be submitted to the UNESCO World Higher Education Conference 2022.



NIEA representatives during FAUBAI conference in 2018 Credit: FAUBAI



### Priorities / Internationalization

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



## Digital transformation of higher education

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

### 1) IAU Policy Statement: Transforming higher education in the digital world for the global common good



Photo from 2018 when the Export Advisory Group was established

The Open Consultation of the Draft Policy statement was conducted among Members and students in the second part of 2020. Since June 2021 the Expert Advisory Group (EAG) have been convening through a series of 7 meetings to discuss and review the comments received and to update the policy statement accordingly. The policy statement is almost finalized and ready to be submitted to the IAU General Conference for adoption. In the meantime we plan to use the document to inform the *UNESCO World Higher Education Conference* in May 2022.

### 2) Collaboration with UNESCO

IAU continues to collaborate with UNESCO in the field of digital transformation. The normative instruments which are submitted for approval to the 41<sup>st</sup> UNESCO General Conference this year were:

- ▶ **Recommendation on The Ethics of Artificial Intelligence**  
IAU participated as an Observer to the Ad Hoc Expert Group in charge of drafting the Recommendation. IAU also participated as a plenary speaker in the UNESCO International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Education.
- ▶ **Recommendation on Open Science**  
IAU participated as an Observer to the Intergovernmental meeting of experts in charge of finalizing the recommendation after the multi-stakeholder consultations. In addition, IAU devoted the In Focus section of *IAU Horizons*, Volume 26, no.1 to the topic of *Open Science in a Closed World* in order to bring the perspectives of universities around the world. The magazine was launched during a joint IAU - Boston College Center of International Higher Education (CIHE) webinar involving some of the authors and generating information and discussion about the role of universities in this movement towards more open science.

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



IAU partnered with the Open University of Catalonia (UOC) in Spain to develop an online webinar series *Innovative Education for Unshaped Futures (IE4UF)* to discuss how the accelerated digital transformation will impact the future of higher education. The series was composed of 6 chapters with each time a speaker from UOC (online university) and a speaker from a campus-based university to discuss different topics impacted by these recent changes:

- *Return to Campus: Making sense of (innovative) hybrid teaching and learning*
- *Assessment practices in hybrid and online HE scenarios*
- *Leadership for Digital Education: Shortcuts and pitfalls*
- *Designing Quality (Online) Learning*
- *Interaction and collaboration: being social in digital environments*
- *Data Governance: What should we be aware of?*

➔ **The series is available online:**

<https://www.iau-aiu.net/technology?onglet=3>

### 4) Innovative Doctoral Course for Sustainability (IDOCOS)

The project "*Innovative Doctoral Course for Sustainability (IDOCOS)*", developed in partnership with KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Sweden, University of Bergen, Norway, NORDUnet, Denmark and Nordic Insight, Norway, was retained for funding within the Erasmus + Strategic Partnership programme of the European Union. The project will run for 2 years between March 2021 and 2023.

The purpose of the project is to leverage the increased use of digital technologies for higher education by proposing an innovative approach to co-creation and sharing of doctoral courses among universities in different countries. It proposes a process and comprehensive guidance document to enhance reciprocal exchange of research capacity, resources, to increase competencies and ultimately strengthening high-quality research education through international collaboration, yet in a flexible format that can be adapted to the different contexts in different countries.



➔ **Priorities / Digital transformation**

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

## Other Projects and Initiatives

### Cooperation with UNESCO



IAU contributes to the vision and mission of UNESCO as is stressed throughout this report. As well, IAU has been invited on board crosscutting global initiatives and projects:

- ▶ the *'Futures of Education initiative'*: A global initiative to reimagine how knowledge and learning can shape the future of humanity and the planet. It catalyzes a global debate on how knowledge, education and learning need to be reimagined in a world of increasing complexity, uncertainty, and precarity. Dr van't Land sits on the Advisory Board.
- ▶ UNESCO UIL Project on *the Role of higher education in the development and provision of lifelong learning*: the Global Survey was carried out by the IAU. The outcomes Report will be tabled at the UNESCO WCHE 2022 Conference.
- ▶ UNESCO – University of Bergen EGU 2030: with the International Science Council, the IAU supported the work of the *Expert Group of Universities 2030* which prepared a report on the role of higher education and the SDGs to be presented at the UNESCO World Conference on Higher Education in May 2022.
- ▶ IAU also contributed to two normative instruments developed by UNESCO namely the Recommendation on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence and the Recommendation on Open Science. More information is available on page 13.

### Observatory on higher education transformations

IAU is a founding member of the "Observatory on higher education transformations" an initiative of the Institute of Education at National Research University "Higher School of Economics" in Moscow, Russia. It brings together the most renowned research centers on higher education around the world to join forces in order to monitor the developments in higher education worldwide. The Observatory will organize webinars and produce short publications to inform the higher education community on the main trends and transformation in the field of higher education research. As part of this initiative IAU is involved in a research project looking at the digital transformation of administrative services of higher education institutions around the world.

### Global Observatory on Academic Freedom

The Global Observatory on Academic Freedom is a new initiative developed by the Open Society University Network (OSUN). It aims to conduct rigorous, innovative and pertinent scientific research and aspires to respond to the urgent need of rethinking the concept of academic freedom, a concept whose crisis we are witnessing throughout the world. GOAF will seek to stimulate debate, connect the interested stakeholders and reflect upon possible pathways vital to the preservation of academic freedom and democratic societies. The IAU Secretary General sits on the Advisory Board.

### Cooperation with the Council of Europe (CoE)



IAU has acquired participatory status with the Council of Europe, this year. This officializes our longstanding partnership. IAU takes part as an observer in the meetings of the Steering Committee for Educational Policy and Practice (CDPPE) which oversees the work of the education department. Specific CoE projects and initiatives IAU is involved in: Project on the local mission of higher education; Project on Competences for Democratic Culture; the Global cooperation for the democratic mission of higher education.



This year IAU Secretary General co-edited the Council of Europe *Higher Education Series, Volume 25, Higher education's response to the Covid-19 pandemic - Building a more sustainable and democratic future*, which was launched with global webinars co-organized by the IAU in March 2021 and April.

### The global cooperation on the Democratic Mission of Higher Education

IAU continues to be a key partner in this global cooperation with the *Council of Europe*, the *International Consortium for Higher Education, Civic Responsibility, and Democracy*; and the *Organization of American States*. The postponed Global Forum on "Higher Education Leadership for Democracy, Sustainability, and Social Justice" will be hosted on June 16 – 17, 2022, at Dublin City University, in Ireland.

# KNOWLEDGE HUB

## News and Publications

### IAU Horizons



Published twice a year, *IAU Horizons* features the Association's activities, upcoming events, strategic priorities, membership information and other IAU publications. Each issue also sheds light on a special 'In Focus' topic, providing perspectives from authors from around the world. The November 2020 (vol. 25, no. 2) is a special number as it focuses on the history of the Association. It also includes an In Focus section with papers by leaders of higher education institution invited to **"Imagine higher education in a post-pandemic world"**. The first issue in 2021 (26.1) was dedicated to the topic **"Democratizing Knowledge: Open Science in a Closed World?"** in connection with the global debates around the new normative instrument and draft recommendation on Open Science developed by UNESCO. This In Focus section allowed a debate the move towards more Open Science from the perspective of universities in different parts of the world.

### Higher Education Policy (HEP)



Higher Education Policy is an international, peer-reviewed journal that focuses on issues of significance in higher education policy. 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. The editorial board is composed of recognized researchers from various fields of higher education and they contribute to ensure the quality of the journal; this can be borne out by the increase in the journal's Impact Factor, which in 2020 increased to 2.629, up from 1.597 in 2019.

All IAU Members in good standing receive a copy of HEP as part of their membership benefits. Non IAU-Members can either join and receive complementary copies of HEP or subscribe on the publisher's website:

<https://www.palgrave.com/fr/journal/41307>

### International Higher Education Publication

As part of a partnership with the Centre for International Higher Education (CIHE) at Boston College (USA) and DUZ Academic publishers (Germany), all IAU Members receive free access to the flagship publication of CIHE: International Higher Education (IHE).

International Higher Education is the quarterly publication of the Center for International Higher Education at Boston College (USA). Through International Higher Education, a network of distinguished international scholars offers commentary and current information on key issues that shape higher education worldwide. Topics analysed in the latest issues of IHE are for instance: Women's Leadership in Higher Education, the Global Ecosystem of Academe and Research Cooperation, the impact of COVID-19 on Private Higher Education and on African Higher Education, national analysis of HE systems and internationalization (e.g. Australia, India, Japan).

### E-Newsletter

10 times a year, the IAU E-Newsletter keeps Members around the world and beyond updated about the initiatives and opportunities of engagement in the work of the Association. It furthermore informs about variety of higher education news and opportunities to engage from around the world.



**Publications**  
Contact: [iau@iau-aiu.net](mailto:iau@iau-aiu.net)

## World Higher Education Database (WHED)

Mapping the higher education landscape has been one of 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 World Higher Education Database ([www.whed.net](http://www.whed.net)).

During the past year, IAU has continued to provide accurate information, facilitate mobility and exchange, while fostering global trust in higher education systems. In this, the WHED serves as both a gate-opener and a gatekeeper as it only lists authoritative information.

The WHED is a unique information portal on recognized higher education institutions (HEIs) and national higher education systems and degrees worldwide, and serves as an important tool for governments, international agencies, grant-awarding authorities, higher education institutions, human resource departments and researchers for navigating the global higher education sector with nearly 4 million pageviews a year.

It is a key resource for the practical implementation of the *UNESCO Global Convention on the Recognition of Higher Education Qualifications* as it supports global academic mobility and international cooperation while reinforcing quality assurance and credentialing. The WHED's unique identifiers, the Global WHED ID for each listed HEI, gives additional support for identification and disambiguation. They contribute to the digitalisation of higher education and other services.

### The WHED currently lists

**20,160** recognized or accredited HEIs of which

**8,816** are public and

**11,344** private HEIs across

**196** countries and territories.

In the year in review, the WHED team successfully completed the update of information related to systems and institutions in Europe. Overall, accredited HEIs in Europe have significantly increased in the last 30 years, as illustrated by the graph.



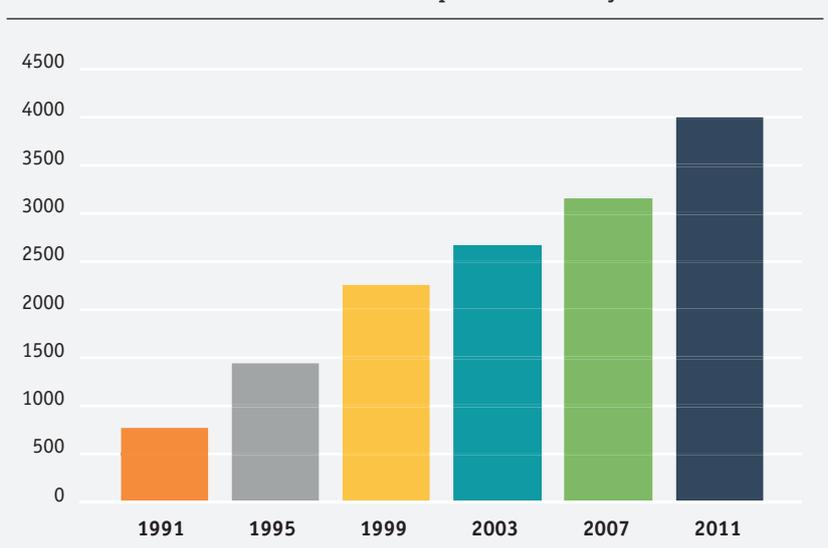
In collaboration with:



The WHED now lists 3976 HEIs in Europe (up from 3949 in 2019). The countries with the most HEIs are the Russian Federation (603 HEIs), France (408 HEIs), Germany (359 HEIs) and Poland (349 HEIs).

The WHED team has moved its focus to updating the region of Latin American and the Caribbean.

Evolution of the number of accredited European HEIs on 20 years



### Some additional activities and highlights in 2020/21 include:

- ▶ The IAU and UNESCO jointly produced an HE Almanac as a contribution to the UNESCO World Higher Education Conference to be held in Barcelona in May 2022. This publication gives an overview of key HE facts and figures for each country by integrating WHED data and is envisaged as a key reference resource for the WHEC 2022.
- ▶ 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 year with mutual representations in our webinars, their Annual Conference, the IAU is also represented as part of the Steering Committee of the EU-funded DigiNet project for the digital integration plan of the ENIC NARIC network.
- ▶ The IAU has entered into a partnership with the European Tertiary Education Registry (ETER) to integrate the Global WHED ID (HEI unique identifier) in their extensive data

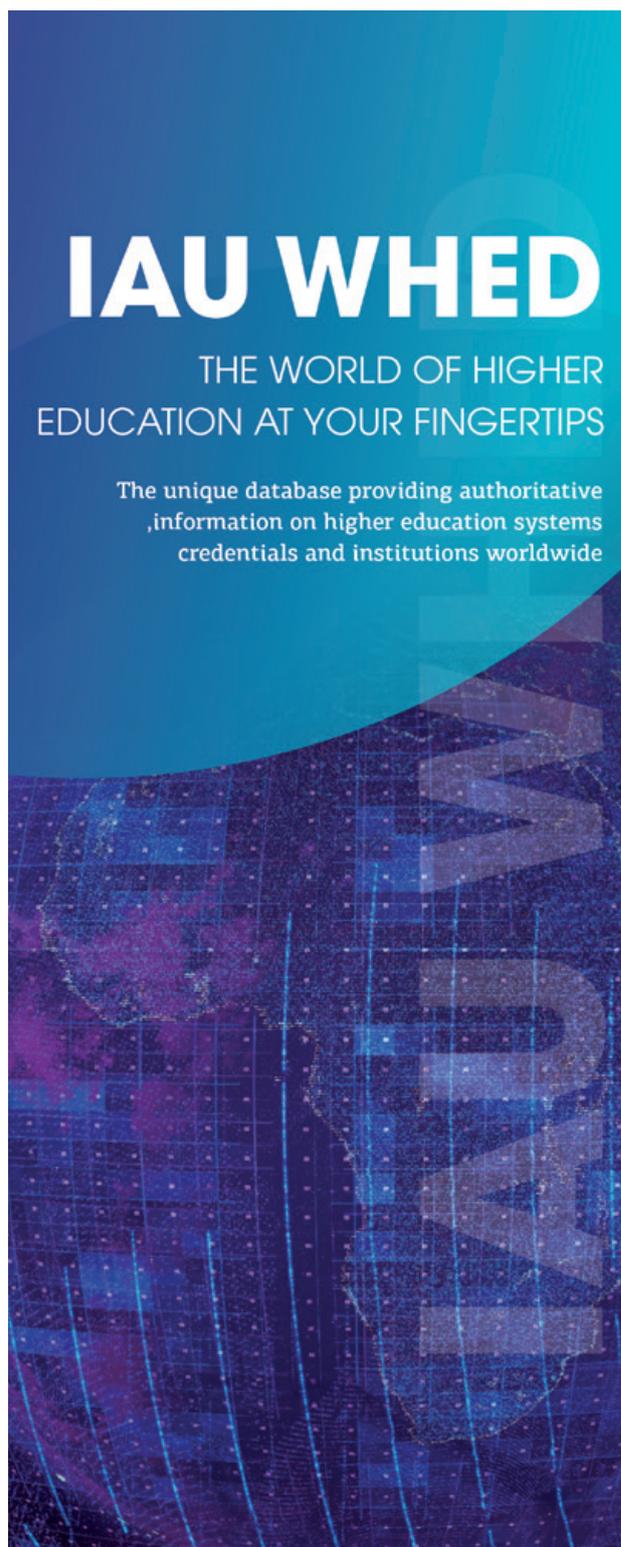
set with the aim of optimising our data provision and creating synergies.

- ▶ A need for more regional and global oversight and harmonisation of HE data was discussed with representatives of the EU, OECD, and US authorities at the 25th International Conference on Science, Technology and Innovation Indicators, STI 2021.
- ▶ The WHED has had a technical upgrade to pave the way for direct access by third parties. This is especially relevant for the integration of WHED data, including the Global WHED ID, in an ambitious blockchain project with the Italian recognition agency CIMEA. This represents the first use of blockchain technology in the field of qualification recognition. The technology provides users a secure wallet to store their academic certificates, the information is checked against WHED data. This project is to be launched in the Italian Pavilion at the Expo 2021 in Dubai.
- ▶ The WHED team conducted extensive consultations with present and former data extraction clients to optimise WHED services. Most of them use the WHED data for their internal HR recruitment processes, clients include the UN, UNICEF, ILO, the private sector, as well as researchers.
- ▶ As a measure of solidarity within the higher education sector during the lockdown, the WHED opened up its advanced search tool to all users with an impressive take up: 9,600 additional connections for this tool usually reserved to IAU members.
- ▶ We are pleased to see that IAU Members are extensively using their designated permalink in their communications and other materials for direct access to their profile page in the WHED.
- ▶ IAU also carried out a survey of the WHED users to better understand their needs, which confirmed that the information provided meets their expectations. The feedback was overwhelmingly positive:

“Being able to access WHED is very important if we want to fight against fraudulent institutions. If it is not in WHED, then it fails the first and most important test! Thank you for making such a fantastic resource available.”  
(Accreditation Agency)

“This is a very useful tool that is accessible to the public. Thank you for putting it together.”  
(HEI representative)

“I am a frequent visitor to check if the universities I am interested in are accredited. Thank you for this excellent service.”  
(Student)



**WHED**

Contact: Nicholas Poulton ([centre@iau-aiu.net](mailto:centre@iau-aiu.net))

# MEMBERSHIP

## Membership Categories and Numbers

### Institutions

Open to higher education institutions recognized by their national body in charge of higher education and whose main objective is higher education and the development of knowledge.

### Organisations

Open to all associations or networks of universities and higher education institutions that bring together the leaders and other institutional representatives at national, sub-national, regional, or international level.

### Affiliates

Open to all non-governmental organisations and networks, national or international in nature, whose primary mandate corresponds to the mission and work of IAU, but which are not eligible to join the Association as a full Member.

### Associates

IAU Associates are renowned leaders and experts in higher education who share IAU’s goals and values and wish to enhance their personal collaboration with the Association.

### Senior Fellows

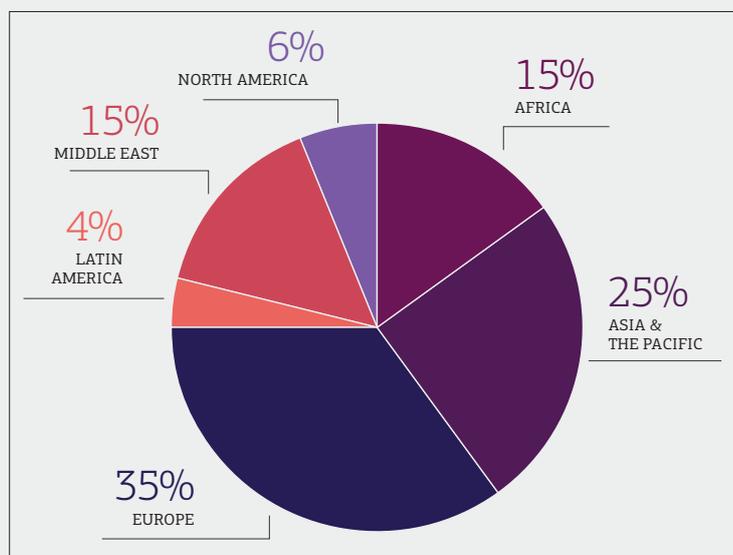
IAU Senior Fellows contribute to the strategic development of the Association and are involved more specifically in IAU thematic priority areas of work. This category is accessible by invitation only.

**629** Members on 30 September 2021

Membership is at the heart of IAU’s mission. The Association is committed to engage with 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>

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



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

2021 (as of 30 Sept)	MEMBERS
INSTITUTIONS	570
ORGANISATIONS	31
AFFILIATES	16
ASSOCIATES	12
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>629</b>



# FINANCIAL REPORT

Presenting the IAU financial years 2020 (1 October 2019 to 30 September 2020) and 2021 (1 October 2020 to 30 September 2021)

INCOME (in K Euro)	2020	2021
Membership fees	1 092	1 055
Programmes and activities	70	81
Knowledge hub, including reference publications	132	97
International Conferences	85	0
Other income	33	112
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>1 412</b>	<b>1 345</b>
EXPENDITURE (in K Euro)	2020	2021
Programme and activities	44	25
Knowledge hub, including reference publications	68	67
International Conferences	51	0
Administrative Board and Executive Committee Meetings	21	0
Administrative and office costs	183	187
Staff cost (salaries, social charges, interns)	1 065	1 039
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>1 432</b>	<b>1 318</b>
<b>IAU Annual Financial Result</b>	<b>-20</b>	<b>27</b>

## Explanatory notes:

### INCOME

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.

# 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



# GOVERNANCE

---

## IAU Administrative Board

The IAU Administrative Board held its 88th meeting online in October 2020. The Administrative Board was able to continue its functions reviewing and advising on the strategic priorities of the Association. One of the most important discussions was related to the organization of the next IAU General Conference. The Association would have wished to have welcomed its Members during the Conference, but due to the global crisis, the Administrative Board convened an extraordinary session of the Administrative Board (89<sup>th</sup>) and decided to postpone the General Conference to 25-28 October 2022. The IAU President and Administrative Board Members have accepted unanimously to stay on and carry out the mandate for another year until 2022.

The current the strategic plan (2016–2020) remains the roadmap for IAU activities until 2022 when the General Conference will convene.

The four strategic priorities of the strategic plan – *Values-based Leadership; Inclusive and fair internationalization; Higher education and research for sustainable development and Digital transformation* remain the four strategic priority areas of work for the IAU until the upcoming IAU General Conference.

During the year, the Executive Committee and the Administrative Board held several informal sessions online to exchange on the impact of COVID-19 and ensuing impacts on higher education and to discuss opportunities for IAU to support its Members during this difficult time of pandemic.

➔ **Interested in shaping the Strategic Direction of the Association? Plan on standing for election and to become an Administrative Board Member. Elections will take place during the 16<sup>th</sup> General Conference in October 2022.**

**More information:**

Nicholas Poulton ([n.poulton@iau-aiu.net](mailto:n.poulton@iau-aiu.net))

## IAU Administrative Board

### 2016-2022

#### PRESIDENT

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

#### IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

**Dzulkifli Abdul Razak**, *Rector at the International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM), Malaysia*

#### MEMBERS

##### Africa

**Abdul Ganiyu Ambali**, *Former Vice-Chancellor, University of Ilorin, Nigeria (IAU Vice-President)*

**Ebenezer Oduro Owusu**, *Former Vice-Chancellor, University of Ghana, Ghana*

**Paul Zeleza**, *Former Vice-Chancellor, United States International University-Africa, Kenya*

##### Americas

**Marta Losada Falk**, *Former President, Antonio Nariño University, Colombia*

**Mirta Martin**, *President, Fairmont State University, USA*

**Pierre-André Pierre**, *Former Rector, University Notre Dame d'Haïti, Haïti*

##### Asia & Pacific

**Salim Daccache s.j.**, *Rector, University of St Joseph Beirut, Lebanon*

**Etsuko Katsu**, *Former Vice-President International, Meiji University, Japan*

**Carmen Lamagna**, *Vice-Chancellor, American International University, Bangladesh*

**Pornchai Mongkhonvanit**, *President, Siam University, Thailand (IAU Vice-President)*

**Mahmoud Nili Ahmadabdi**, *Former President, University of Tehran, Iran*

**Ranbir Singh**, *Former Vice-Chancellor, National Law University, India*

##### Europe

**Andrew Deeks**, *President, University College Dublin, Ireland*

**Maria de Fatima Marinho**, *Former Vice-Rector for Cooperation and Culture, University of Porto, Portugal*



86<sup>th</sup> Administrative Board Meeting in Puebla (November 2019).

**Remus Pricopie**, *Rector, National University of Political and Administrative Studies, Romania (IAU Vice-President)*

**Daniel Hernandez Ruiperez**, *Former Rector, University of Salamanca, Spain*

**Godehard Ruppert**, *Former President, Otto-Friedrich-Universität Bamberg, Germany*

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

#### ORGANISATIONS

**Zoltan Dubécsi**, *Secretary-General, MRK (Hungarian Rectors Conference), Hungary*

**Roberto Escalante Semerena**, *Secretary-General, UDUAL (Unión de Universidades de América Latina y el Caribe), Mexico (IAU Vice-President)*

#### SECRETARY-GENERAL

**Hilligje van't Land**, *Secretary General IAU & Executive Director, International Universities Bureau*

#### DEPUTY MEMBERS

##### Asia & Pacific

**Mosleh Duhoky**, *President, University of Duhok, Iraq*

**Mohammad Reza Pourmohammadi**, *Former Chancellor, The University of Tabriz, Iran*

##### Europe

**Constantinos Christofides**, *Former Rector, University of Cyprus, Cyprus*

**Henrik Dam**, *Rector, University of Southern Denmark, Denmark*

**Oleg Smeshko**, *Rector, Saint-Petersburg University of Management Technologies and Economics, Russian Federation*

#### ORGANISATIONS

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

#### HONORARY PRESIDENTS

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

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

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

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

# SECRETARIAT

---

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



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



**Andreas Corcoran**  
Deputy Secretary General



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



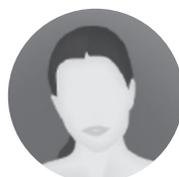
**Lianne Guerra  
Rondon**  
Project Officer



**Jessica Huang**  
Administrative Assistant



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



**Disha Kohli**  
Manager, Communication and  
Membership Development



**Giorgio Marinoni**  
Manager, HE and  
Internationalization policy  
and projects



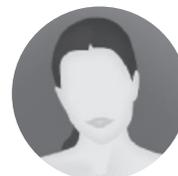
**Angella Nino**  
Manager, Finances  
and Administration



**Nicholas Poulton**  
Information and  
Publication Officer



**Samuel Pousson**  
Assistant,  
Reference Publications



**Georgeta Sadlak**  
Manager,  
Information Systems



**Carine Sébast**  
Manager,  
Reference Publications



**Amanda Sudic**  
Librarian/Documentalist



**Isabel Toman**  
Programme Officer

## IAU in numbers

We are pleased to share with you some IAU major achievements in numbers for the academic year 2020-2021. IAU continuously enhances engagement with its Members, strengthening partnerships and developing meaningful new initiatives for the benefit of the global higher education community

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

**+140** speakers and

**+2500** participants from around the world

---

**+3 million** pageviews on the WHED with

**+1.5** million searches on accredited HEIs and higher education systems

**+2** million fact sheets consulted

---

**+650000** pageviews on the IAU website

**+6500** followers on Twitter  
(@iau; @iau-hesd; @VantlandH)

**+2500** followers on LinkedIn

---

Thank you for helping to grow the IAU community and for supporting the IAU vision and mission!



**IAU**  
**2022**  
**16<sup>th</sup> GENERAL**  
**CONFERENCE**  
**25-28 October**  
Dublin, Ireland

# Let's Meet in Dublin

## IAU 16<sup>th</sup> General Conference 25-28 October 2022

### RELEVANCE AND VALUE OF UNIVERSITIES TO FUTURE SOCIETY

We look forward to convening our Members from around the world in a presential setting with room for networking and informal conversations over lunch and coffee. Take part in this exceptional event, hosted by University College Dublin (UCD), offering a stimulating programme discussing emerging trends in higher education with perspectives from all regions of the world. The General Conference is furthermore the supreme decision making body of the Association, where Members elect the next IAU President and Administrative Board and approve the Strategic plan of the Association, thus the participation of Members is of utmost importance.

Make sure that the dates are in your agenda and let's meet in Dublin!

Hosted by University  
college Dublin (UCD)



#### International Association of Universities (IAU)

UNESCO

1, rue Miollis

75732 Paris Cedex 15

France

Telephone: + 33 1 45 68 48 00

Fax: + 33 1 47 34 76 05

E-Mail: [iau@iau-aiu.net](mailto:iau@iau-aiu.net)

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

Twitter: @IAU\_AIU, @IAU\_HESD

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/iau-aiu>

**Content:** IAU Secretariat

**Editors:** Hilligje van't Land, IAU Secretary-General and Trine Jensen, HE & Digital Transformation, Publication and Events

**Graphic design:** Maro Haas

**Photo credits:** Cover: Shutterstock/Dmytro Balkhovitin – Inside cover: Pexels/Ron Lach – P2: Pexels/Polina Zimmerman

Copyright © 2021 International Association of Universities (IAU).

All rights reserved.

This information may be used and copied for non-commercial purposes, provided that the source is acknowledged (© International Association of Universities).