Ever since its foundation in 1907, the Union of International Associations (UIA) has been championing international cooperation. As an independent, non-profit research institute dedicated to recording the nature and evolution of international civil society, the UIA documents the work of International Nongovernmental Organizations (INGOs) and Intergovernmental Organizations (IGOs) and promotes public awareness of their activities. In addition, the UIA serves as a valuable repository for current and historical information on the work of international associations.

Today, the UIA’s focus rests on facilitating and being a sounding board for the collective views of international bodies, strengthening ties and internationality of these organizations, and promoting their visibility on a global stage. To achieve this aim, the UIA collects, hosts and provides up-to-date, reliable information on global civil society and maintains the most comprehensive source of information on international associations, their activities and concerns, and their meetings activities.

Thus, a large section of the extensive UIA Global Civil Society Database is accessible to the public for free, in particular through its projects Open Yearbook, Open Calendar, the Survey on International Meeting Issues, and the Encyclopedia of World Problems and Human Potential.

The UIA also provides important education and networking opportunities to associations through its regular Round Table events, which allow participants from organizations with limited budgets to learn, share, and connect. UIA publishes a lively online newsletter each month with items of direct interest to international associations.

The UIA’s main offerings and services are:

- Yearbook of International Organizations
- International Congress Calendar
- International Meetings Statistics Report
- Encyclopedia of World Problems and Human Potential
- Survey on International Meeting Issues
- Associations Round Tables
- World of Associations News
- Customized data extractions