

18th

UIA Associations ROUND TABLE Europe

14–15 November 2024

Palazzo Degli Affari

Florence, Italy

#UIA24EU



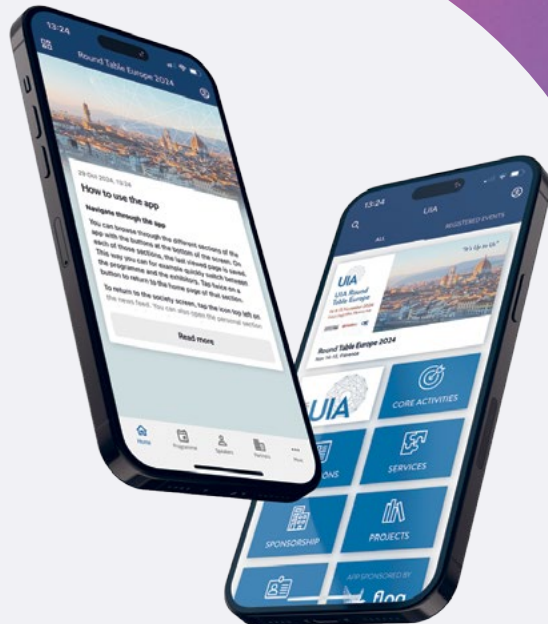
PROGRAMME



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Welcome to the 18th UIA Associations Round Table – in Florence

Message from the Secretary-General

We welcome you to Florence for the 18th UIA Associations Round Table Europe.

For 115 years the Union of International Associations (UIA) has been working to promote and facilitate the work of international associations. Since 2007, the annual UIA Associations Round Tables have given associations an opportunity to learn through networking and through practice.

As an independent research institute, the UIA is able to bring together people one wouldn't meet anywhere else. Many of the invitees will never be found on any other list: finding and documenting associations is, after all, the UIA's expertise. I am confident, you will benefit greatly from the opportunity to exchange ideas, and to engage in active discussions with the speakers and each other.

The participants and speakers are people involved in running associations – of all sorts. The diversity of international associations attending any given UIA Round Table is remarkable, yet each UIA Round Table confirms that we have more in common than our associations' names might indicate. We share challenges and questions and concerns, exchanging ideas and engaging in active discussions with the speakers and each other. And this year, additionally, we share the experience of being in a beautiful, historical and as well pulsating, innovative city – Florence.

For two days, the city of Florence will be the stage for representatives from international associations – professional societies, service organizations, interest groups, and charities – to share, through workshops and discussion groups, their experiences in meeting challenges in communication issues, strategy, governance, finding partners for their goals and more. The UIA team is happy to finally meet – or see again – many of you face to face.

We at the UIA look forward to meeting the delegates, to the presentations by those with experience in association work and to the thought-provoking discussions they will introduce, and to the opportunities to network with our colleagues from other associations and other countries.

At the UIA we consider a Round Table a success if the participants go home with new ideas, with increased motivation, and with names of people with whom they want to stay in touch.

The 18th UIA Associations Round Table Europe 2024 is possible thanks to the generous support of our hosts from the Team Florence: Destination Florence Convention Bureau, Firenze Fiera and the OIC Group. And thanks to the support of our partners and sponsors. We thank them.

Sincerely,
Jacques de Mévius
Secretary-General of the UIA

Programme

Thursday 14 November 2024

10.30

Registration opens

- Reception Desk (ground floor)

11.00 - 12.00

UIA Associate Members Meeting - for UIA Associate Members only!

- Modulo 1 (1st floor)

12.00 - 13.00

Optional tour of Firenze Fiera Grounds

- Modulo 1 (1st floor)

13.00 - 14.00

Lunch at the Palazzo Degli Affari

- Modulo 0 (ground floor)

14.00 - 15.30

Round Table session 1:

Opening keynote by Cyril Ritchie, President of UIA:

“Was the UN Summit of the Future (September 22-23, 2024) of relevance to Associations? If so, what happens next?”

• Round Table discussion chaired by Dr Daniel Laqua

• Panel of speakers

- Modulo 1 (first floor)

15.30 - 16.00

Coffee break

Programme

Thursday 14 November 2024 (continued)

16.00 - 16.45

Round Table session 2: Presentation of three case studies

- Modulo 1 (1st floor)

16.45 - 17.30 / 17.45 - 18.30

two rounds of three parallel workshops in break-out rooms

Martina Fondi, Partner - Business Developer & Head of Forestry, Treadom:

“Roots of Renewal: How Associations can Embrace Regenerative Approaches through Local Reforestation.”

- Modulo 2.2 (2nd floor)

Gianni Virgili and Paolo Limoli, International Society for Low Vision Research and Rehabilitation (ISLRR): *“‘Low Vision Congress’ - An example of 360° teamwork to listen, learn and leave a legacy for the future.”*

- Modulo 2.1 (2nd floor)

Ryan Brubaker, Web and Database Developer, UIA:

“Achieving goals, finding partners: UIA’s Global Civil Society Database”

- Hall 2A (2nd floor)

18.30 - 19.00

Optional tour of Firenze Fiera Grounds

19.00 - 20.00

Welcome cocktail reception at the Palazzo Degli Affari

- Modulo 0 (ground floor)

Programme

Friday 15 November 2024

9.00 – 10.00

Round Table session 3: Presentation of three case studies

- Modulo 1 (1st floor)

10.00 – 10.45

first of two rounds of three parallel workshops in break-out rooms

Diye Ndiaye, Anthropologist, Former Counselor for International Relations, Equal Opportunities and Local Associations Promotion of the Commune of Scandicci (Province of Florence) / Former President of Senegalese Association in Florence & President of FASI:

“UN SDGs and EU Agenda 2030 - Associations Striving for Equal Opportunities.” (This workshop will be held in French)

- Modulo 2.2 (2nd floor)

Sara Lucatello, President of the European Astronomical Society (EAS) & Michela Pacifici, President and Founding Member of the Society for Conservation Biology (SCB) Italy Chapter: *“Italian Knowledge Leaders: fostering intellectual engagement through collaboration with international associations.”*

- Modulo 2.1 (2nd floor)

Stefano Berretti, Associate Professor at the Department of Information Engineering of University of Florence: *“Storytelling of AI - The good, the bad and the ugly”*

- Hall 2A (2nd floor)

Programme

Friday 15 November 2024 (continued)

10.45 – 11.15

Coffee break

11.15 – 12.00

second of two rounds of three parallel workshops in break-out rooms

12.00 – 13.00

Round Table session 4:

Closing keynote by Alberto Mattiello, author and business futurist:

“Disruption? Future of Events?”

13.00 – 14.00

Lunch at the Palazzo Degli Affari

- Modulo 0 (ground floor)

14.15 – 15.45

Four optional guided tours to discover Florence

Presenters

Cyril Ritchie

President of UIA

Biography

- Union of International Associations: President since 2017 - Brussels
- Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations (CoNGO): President 2011-2018; First Vice President 2018-2025 - Geneva, New York, Vienna
- Council of Europe Expert Council on NGO Law: President 2008-2018; Honorary President from 2018 - Strasbourg
- World Future Council: Senior Policy Advisor since 2012 - Hamburg
- International Baby Food Action Network/GIFA: Vice President since 2020 - Geneva
- Titular of the World Order of the Smile (since 1979) - Government of Poland
- International Civil Society Forum for Democracy (ICSFD, 2006): President - Doha
- World Civil Society Conference (WOCSOC, 1999): President - Montréal
- International Council of Voluntary Agencies: Executive Director 1964-1978 and 1990-1991 - Geneva



Presenters

Workshop:

“Was the UN Summit of the Future (September 22-23, 2024) of relevance to Associations? If so, what happens next?”

In a world of (again) increasing antagonisms and conflicts among governments, the United Nations System remains essential to the struggle to maintain peace, to achieve sustainable development, to uphold human rights, to reduce the risks and consequences of disasters, to preserve multilateralism. But what United Nations?

The UN Summit of the Future (SOTF) is intended to revamp, reinvigorate, redress the UN as the universal values-based, standard-setting organization its Charter intends it to be. SOTF will produce a Pact for the Future, a Global Digital Compact, a Declaration on Future Generations.

What is and will be the role of and impact on Associations, short-term and long-term? The Florence RT Keynote address will endeavour to pinpoint the Summit’s relevance to Association principles, aspirations, and daily work, looking forward to 2025 and the Sustainable Development Goals target date of 2030.

Realism? Pie in the sky? Come, listen, react!

Presenters

Alberto Mattiello

Business futurist, award-winning entrepreneur, author, and keynote speaker

Keynote:

“Disruption? Future of Events?”

Biography

Author of ‘Customer Success,’ ‘Mind the Change,’ and ‘Marketing Thinking’ and curator of the Italian edition of the MIT Sloan books, Alberto is a technology and business innovation expert.

For ten years, Alberto has led Future Thinking, an international innovation-accelerator hub of Wunderman-Thompson, and he is the Head of Innovation of Retail Hub.

He focuses on helping companies to find a “sweet spot” between marketing, technological innovation, and emerging business models.

Alberto is a former member of the Scientific Committee of Confindustria.

Alberto is a speaker with many business groups and mentors at corporations and universities like Imperial College of London and the Bocconi University in Milan.

He lives in Miami, Florida.



Presenters

Daniel Laqua

Associate Professor at Northumbria University

Biography

Daniel Laqua is Associate Professor at Northumbria University in Newcastle upon Tyne, UK.

He is the author of *Activism across Borders since 1870: Causes, Campaigns and Conflicts in and beyond Europe* (London, 2023) and *The Age of Internationalism and Belgium, 1880–1930: Peace, Progress and Prestige* (Manchester, 2013) as well as the (co-)editor of three books and six special issues of academic journals.

He has published widely on the history of international movements and organisations, including a volume on the history of UIA, *International Organizations and Global Civil Society: Histories of the Union of International Associations* (London, 2019).

He is currently leading a large international project on ‘Global Governance, Trust and Democratic Engagement in Past and Present’ (funded via the Trans-Atlantic Platform for the Social Sciences and Humanities) and is serving as co-lead of a research network entitled ‘Rethinking Internationalism: Histories and Pluralities’.



Presenters

Diye Ndiaye

Anthropologist, Former Counselor for International Relations, Equal Opportunities and Local Associations Promotion of the Commune of Scandicci (Province of Florence) / Former Presidente of Senegalese Association in Florence & President of FASI (Federation of Senegalese Associations in Italy).

Biography

Diye Ndiaye is graduated from the University of Florence in Educational Science with a thesis in cultural anthropology, and subsequently obtained the DEA (Diplôme d'étude Appliqué) again in social anthropology and ethnology from the EHESS (École des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales) of Paris.

Councillor at the Municipality of Scandicci from May 2014 until recently June 2024, with the responsibilities of Education, Professional Training, Cooperation and International Relations, Promotion of Associations, Equal Opportunities.

Always dealing with the issue of gender and women's empowerment, she was involved in the issues of fighting Female Genital Mutilation, participating in the European Euronet-FGM network and collaborated with numerous associations present in the Florentine area and member of the non-governmental organization COSPE (Cooperation for the Development of Emerging Countries), she coordinated the F4A project (Foundations For Africa) on the institutional support and supervision of Senegalese associations in Tuscany and Emilia Romagna and also promoted the "The Color of Respect" event to say No to racism and sexism in the institutional context.

Furthermore, her involvement in association movements strengthened her ability to adapt to new situations. These activities have led her to produce various contributions on the occasion of numerous seminars, conferences and talks organized on issues of gender, "identity" and "development" and publications. She is author of *Parenañu, "we are ready"*. Ethnography of a female enterprise in Senegal, Rome, C.I.S.U, 2004; "Breaking the wall of silence!", in *Busoni M., Laurenzi E. (ed.) The body of symbols. Theoretical and political nodes of a debate on female genital mutilation, SEID, Florence; Women and politics: the African chapter, in Africa, Testimonies. Bimonthly - Year LIV January - April, n. 1-2 (475-476), pp. 79-84, Florence, 2011* She is currently pursuing a PhD in social and cultural anthropology at the University of Milan Bicocca.



Presenters

Workshop:

"UN SDGs and EU Agenda 2030 - Associations Striving for Equal Opportunities."

Workshop Description:

Equal opportunities is a vast subject that is not only limited to gender equality, but it's also touching every aspect of the community. Associations can play a central role in promoting and defending this subject by making it visible to policy makers.

How can associations advocate "equal opportunities" towards national and international organisations and help achieve the goals of the UN SDGs and of the Agenda 2030 of the European Union?

Associations' unique knowledge of their professional environment makes them the perfect magnifying glass to show policy makers the way forward in endeavouring to provide equal opportunities for all.

Key take-aways/Objectives:

Defining equal opportunities beyond gender equality. How associations can enhance equal opportunities in their own specific fields. How to get the attention of policy makers on the subject. How to contribute to the development of the subject on a global scale even with a small contribution.

How associations can maximize the impact, relevance, and sustainability of their events, by harnessing the expertise, insights, and networks of local intellectual leaders, and thus developing successful partnerships with host destinations.

Presenters

Stefano Berretti

Associate Professor at the Department of Information Engineering of University of Florence

Biography

Stefano Berretti is an Associate Professor at the Dept. of Information Engineering of the University of Florence (UniFI), Italy, and the head of the PhD program in Smart Computing at the same University. He was also a visiting professor at the University of Lille, France, and at the University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada. The research interests of Stefano Berretti focus on developing artificial intelligence solutions for 3D computer vision problems such as face and facial expression recognition, human behavior understanding, face reconstruction and generation in 3D and 4D, geometric methods for shape analysis, and modeling. On these themes he has published over 220 articles in peer reviewed international journals and conference proceedings. He has worked on several research projects funded by the EU, the MUR and the Tuscany region, and currently is the principal investigator for UniFI of the AI4Debunk Horizon Europe project. He organized workshops on Learning with few or without annotated face, body, and gesture data (LFA at IEEE FG 2023 and 2024), Generation of Human Face and Body Behavior (GHB at WACV 2021, ICIAP 2023). He has been a general chair of The Eurographics Symposium on 3D Object Retrieval (3DOR) 2022, and of the Conference on Smart Tools and Applications in Graphics 2021 and has served as an area chair for ACM Multimedia (2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024), IEEE Face and Gesture Recognition (2019, 2020), and program chair for the Int. Conf. on Smart Multimedia (2022, 2024). He organized special issues on the Computers & Graphics journal, ACM TOMM, IEEE TII, IEEE TCE, IEEE JBHI, and ACM TALLIP. He is the Associate Editor in Chief for Digital Communications of the IEEE Trans. on Circuits and Systems for Video Technology, an Associate Editor of the ACM Trans. of Multimedia Computing, Communications, and Applications (ACM TOMM), and of the IET Computer Vision journal. He was also the Information Director of ACM TOMM. He is a Senior member of IEEE.



Presenters

Workshop:

“Storytelling of AI - The good, the bad and the ugly”

Workshop Description:

A storytelling on the history of AI. How did it start? How did it develop? Where are we now? Where are we going? Risks and opportunities. Analysing the inevitable impact that AI will have on International Associations and the future of humanity.

Key take-aways/Objectives:

Getting an idea of where AI is coming from and how it is already playing an important role in society. Learning the opportunities and the risks related to AI as well as the do's and don'ts of this new subject.



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Presenters

Martina Fondi

Partner - Business Developer & Head of Forestry, Treedom

Biography

Martina Fondi - Partner - Business Developer & Head of Forestry - Graduated in International and Diplomatic Sciences, before joining Treedom I worked in Consulates and Diplomatic Offices in Italy and around the world, always with a focus on international cooperation and sustainable development. In 2012, after a Master in Green Economy I met Treedom and today I am responsible for the coordination of all Treedom's forestry and R&D projects globally, consolidating my experience in agroforestry, sustainable management and international relations.



Workshop: "Roots of Renewal: How Associations can Embrace Regenerative Approaches through Local Reforestation."

Workshop Description:

In a world struggling with the effects of environmental degradation and social disintegration, there is a compelling need for initiatives that foster ecological restoration and community cohesion. The "Roots of Renewal" workshop is designed to propagate the concept of a "regenerative approach" towards nature and communities, emphasizing the transformative potential of local reforestation efforts and the importance of internal change in associations. This workshop aims to go beyond conventional conservation tactics, advocating for a systemic change in our interaction with the environment. Participants will be introduced to the principles of regenerative development: an approach that views reforestation not just as a method of planting trees, but as a holistic strategy to increase biodiversity, enhance ecosystem services, and revitalize community dynamics. The session will offer a blend of theoretical knowledge and practical guidance, ensuring participants leave with both an understanding of the regenerative framework and actionable steps to implement it. Experts in environmental science, social development, and local forestry initiatives will facilitate immersive activities, group discussions, and case study analyses.

Presenters

Key take-aways/Objectives:

- To explain the concept of regenerative practices, distinguishing them from sustainability and highlighting their restorative impacts.
- To explore the multi-dimensional benefits of reforestation, including carbon sequestration, habitat creation, water cycle regulation, and soil fertility improvement.
- To demonstrate the symbiotic relationship between healthy ecosystems and thriving communities, showcasing how reforestation can serve as a catalyst for social empowerment and economic development.
- To provide a platform for knowledge exchange, where participants can share experiences, forge partnerships, and learn from successful reforestation projects.
- To provide attendees with the tools and methodologies for initiating, managing, and scaling local reforestation projects with a regenerative focus.



The diagram features a central 'oic group' logo with a hand reaching up towards it. Surrounding the logo are four service categories, each with a list of offerings:

- MICE**
 - HCP Meetings
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 - Residential Congresses
 - Virtual and Hybrid events
 - ECM Courses and Events
 - Scientific Secretariat
- TRAVEL**
 - IATA and Train ticket office
 - Hotel Reservation
 - NCC Management
 - Guided Tours

At the bottom, contact information is provided for the Headquarter and Representative Office, along with a QR code.

HEADQUARTER
Viale della Giovine Italia, 17 50122
Florence - Italy

REPRESENTATIVE OFFICE
Square Charles-Maurice Wiser, 13
bte 20 1040 Brussels - Belgium

Presenters

Sara Lucatello

President of the European Astronomical Society (EAS)

Biography

Sara Lucatello obtained her undergraduate degree and PhD from University of Padova, Italy. After postdoctoral work at University of Texas Austin, she was INAF fellow in Padova and later Excellence Cluster Universe fellow in Munich. She joined the faculty at INAF Osservatorio Astronomico di Padova in 2006. Her scientific interests focus on spectroscopic studies of stellar populations, the formation and chemo-dynamical evolution of the Milky Way and its subcomponents, large Galactic stellar surveys and Big Data in Astronomy.

She has served as a member and co-chair of the Committee of Participation of Women in Sloan and as a member of the Committee for Inclusion in Sloan, the organs for diversity and equal opportunities in the SDSS (Sloan Digital Sky Survey) collaboration. Since July 2024 she is serving as President of the European Astronomical Society, with a portfolio focusing on diversity and inclusion issues, and she is part of the organizing committee of EAS2024, to be held in Padua in July.

Michela Pacifici

President and Founding Member of the Society for Conservation Biology (SCB) Italy Chapter

Biography

Michela Pacifici is a zoologist and conservation biologist whose scientific research focuses on analysing the relationships between human impacts and the extinction risk of terrestrial mammals on a global scale through the use of models. Michela is a researcher at the Global Mammal Assessment lab at Sapienza University of Rome. She is President and founding member of the Society for Conservation Biology Italy Chapter.

Presenters

Workshop:

“Italian Knowledge Leaders: fostering intellectual engagement through collaboration with international associations.”

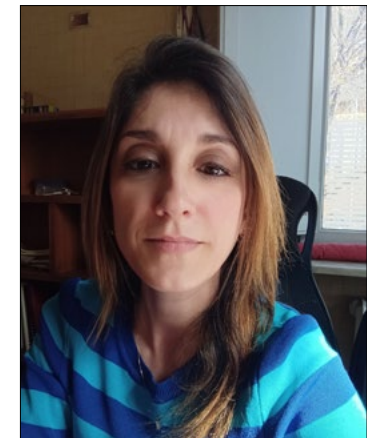
Workshop Description:

Italian Knowledge Leaders is a national umbrella-like project aimed to support local intellectual leaders and their engagement within international associations. Through a variety of approaches, this initiative seeks to elevate Italy's standing as a hub of knowledge exchange and networking within various professional and academic circles. By providing support to international associations and facilitating the organization of congresses, the project aims to improve the quality and number of congresses in Italy and thus foster collaboration, innovation, and growth in all fields of knowledge.

Key take-aways/Objectives:

To highlight how to foster collaboration of international associations and host destinations through the engagement of local intellectual leaders who are actively involved in association life.

How associations can maximize the impact, relevance, and sustainability of their events, by harnessing the expertise, insights, and networks of local intellectual leaders, and thus developing successful partnerships with host destinations.



Presenters

Workshop:

“Low Vision Congress’ - An example of 360° teamwork to listen, learn and leave a legacy for the future.”

Workshop Description:

An introduction and discussion of how an association and a local team (PCO, CVB and Venue) can work together seamlessly from an initial RFP to bid presentation already planning out for now and the future.

(Workshop together with Ginevra De Bellis, OIC; Ilenia Pasi, Destination Florence Convention Bureau and Annarita Buracchi, Firenze Fiera)

Key take-aways/Objectives:

Listening to the needs of the association, co-creative thinking and brainstorming to present a well-rounded project with the aim of not just looking at the congress in Florence 2025, but leaving added value for the years to come.



“It’s Up to Us”

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Presenters

Professor Gianni Virgili

Biography

Gianni Virgili is Professor of Ophthalmology at the University of Florence and was Professor at Queen’s University Belfast (2021-2022). He is Director of the Ophthalmology Specialization Program, director of the SOD Optics Pathophysiology clinical unit and was Coordinator of the Regional Center for Visual Education and Rehabilitation at Careggi Hospital in Florence, Italy. He has specialized in medical retina since 1992.

He received a Master’s degree in Epidemiology from the University of Turin in 2005 and has received extensive training in biostatistics and research methods, particularly in systematic reviews and meta-analyses. He has developed skills in healthcare data management and collaborated with the Regional Health Agency in pharmacoepidemiology studies in Tuscany. He has collaborated in particular with Cochrane, where he holds the following editorial roles: Editor of Cochrane Eyes and Vision (2006); Coordinator of the Cochrane Eyes and Vision Satellite for Diagnostic Accuracy of Tests (2011); Editor of the Diagnostic Test Accuracy Working Group (2011). He is a member of the Editorial Board of the journal Internal and Emergency Medicine (HTA and Clinical Evidence section, 2010), Academic Editor of the journal PLOS ONE (2015) and Executive Editor of the American Journal of Ophthalmology (2016). His main areas of clinical interest include primary research on the diagnosis and treatment of medical retinal disorders, visual function and visual rehabilitation.

Paolo Limoli

Scientific director of the Low Vision Study Center in Milan, Medical director of the Eye Center Eye.com in Palermo, LOC President for Vision 2025

Biography

Paolo Limoli has always dealt with low vision. In 1992 he developed and patented software for the virtual analysis of visually impaired patients. He introduced pulsed stimulation into visual rehabilitation. He has been studying cell therapies and their secretome since 2000 in order to reduce the impact of degenerative pathologies on vision and was the first in the world to implant, in 2012, autologous stem cells in the suprachoroidal space of the eye for this purpose.

Limoli, together with Dr. Villani, both members of the scientific council of the Low Vision Academy, is chosen by the International Society for Visual Research and Rehabilitation as the ideal candidate for the organization of a possible Italian candidacy for Vision 2025, the world congress that deals with the impact of low vision on people and their rehabilitation possibilities. This choice is due to Limoli’s direction of the Low Vision Academy for over 14 years and Villani’s connections with international scientific societies.

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Presenters

Ryan Brubaker

Web and Database Developer, UIA - Union of International Associations

Workshop:

***“Achieving goals, finding partners:
UIA’s Global Civil Society Database”***

UIA provides tools and data to help associations with their outreach, event planning and more. Ryan will present a number of UIA’s tools, including a live demo of ‘Open Yearbook’ and ‘Open Calendar’, explain the history and future plans of the Global Civil Society Database, and will answer questions about how associations can best take advantage of these free resources.



Biography

Ryan has worked as a web and database developer at UIA since 2011. He is responsible for the user interface of UIA’s databases, the ongoing development of UIA’s website and the visual identity of the organization. He also provides regular training sessions on the use of UIA’s *Yearbook of International Organizations* and *International Congress Calendar* digital publications.

Before joining UIA, Ryan ran a communications design studio crafting online identities for associations and small businesses.

About the UIA

“... to serve as a centre for documentation, study, service, and the promotion of closer relations between international associations.”

The Union of International Associations (UIA) is a non-profit, independent research institute documenting the current and historical work of international nongovernmental organizations (INGOs) and intergovernmental organizations (IGOs) and promoting the public awareness of their activities.

Since its foundation, the UIA has focused on recording the nature and evolution of international civil society. The UIA's focus today is on promoting the internationality of these organizations and in representing the collective views of international bodies.

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.

The UIA has existed since 1907 when it was founded by two Belgians, Henri La Fontaine and Paul Otlet. La Fontaine was an international lawyer, professor of international law, and a member of the Belgian Senate for 36 years. He was a socialist, a renowned bibliographer, and a devoted internationalist. In 1913 he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for his work as “the effective leader of the peace movement in Europe”. He and his sister Léonie La Fontaine were also early advocates for women's rights and suffrage, founding the Belgian League for the Rights of Women in 1890.

Otlet was a lawyer, bibliographer, political activist, and a Utopian with an internationalist agenda. His seminal work in documentation included the creation of the Universal Decimal Classification system. Otlet envisioned an international Network for Universal Documentation: a machine which would allow users to search, read and write to a database stored on millions of index cards, and which could be accessed from great distances. The idea of networked documents was so novel that no one had a word to describe these relationships until Otlet invented one: links. Today, Otlet is considered one of the fathers of information science.

The UIA has Consultative Relations with UNESCO, UN/ECOSOC, and ILO. It collaborates with the Council of Europe and the European Commission. A special ECOSOC resolution of 1950 establishes cooperation between the United Nations and the UIA for the preparation of the Yearbook of International Organizations.

The UIA is in regular contact with some 43,000 active international non-governmental organizations documented in the Yearbook.

FUTURE UIA ROUND TABLES

11th UIA Associations Round Table Asia-Pacific

2025 - Date & Location TBA

19th UIA Associations Round Table Europe

Brussels, Belgium - 21 November 2025

20th UIA Associations Round Table Europe

Lucerne, Switzerland - 19 & 20 November 2026

UIA's Purpose

The UIA's aims as stated in its statutes are to:

- *Facilitate the evolution of the world-wide network of non-profit organizations.*
- *Promote understanding of how such bodies represent valid interests in every field of human activity – scientific, religious, artistic, educational, trade, labour.*
- *Collect and disseminate information on these bodies and their interrelationships.*
- *Present such information in experimental ways, as a catalyst for the emergence of innovative bodies.*
- *Promote research on the legal, administrative and other problems common to these bodies.*

The UIA seeks to achieve these goals primarily in three ways:

1. By documenting global civil society activity

The UIA's associations database – the basis of the Yearbook of International Organizations both online and in print – attempts to cover all “international organizations”, according to a broad range of criteria. It therefore includes many bodies that may be perceived as not being fully international, or as not being organizations as such, or as not being of sufficient significance to merit inclusion. Such bodies are nevertheless included, so as to enable users to make their own evaluation in the light of their own criteria.

In preparing and updating the organization profiles, the UIA gives priority to information received from the organizations themselves, then checks this information against other sources (periodicals, official documents, media, etc.) to present a reliable picture of a dynamic situation. The information presented by the UIA is structured, comprehensive and concise. A standard framework makes comparison possible.

2. By publishing research reports

The UIA's associations database is continuously updated and includes descriptions of some 70,000 international organizations – NGOs and IGOs – active in all fields of human endeavour, in all corners of the world, and throughout centuries of history.

Its meetings database – the basis of the International Congress Calendar both online and in print – currently includes over half a million international meetings of these bodies, from 1850 to far into the future.

The organization profiles and meetings profiles are complemented by bibliographies, SDGs, statistical reports, and descriptions of problems perceived and strategies adopted by international associations as well as the values and approaches that animate them. Over 500,000 hyperlinks facilitate navigation through this data.

The UIA also produces customized reports on demand for a variety of governmental, non-governmental, and commercial bodies.

3. By providing training and networking opportunities for international association staff

Since 2007 the UIA hosts annual Associations Round Tables, bringing together representatives of international associations to learn practical skills and share experience.

On 21 November 2025 the 19th UIA Associations Round Table Europe will be held in Brussels, Belgium.

In 2026 the 20th Round Table Europe will take place in Lucerne, Switzerland on 19 & 20 November.

For more information, visit <https://uia.org/roundtable>

CONTACT US

Union of International Associations (UIA)

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1050 Brussels, Belgium

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E-mail: uia@uia.org

Website: www.uia.org



The UIA Round Tables provide an opportunity to learn through networking and through practice, to meet other international associations and share experience and knowledge to help you run your organization better.

We thank our partners for making it possible.



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