

**Figure 2.1.**  
**Number of international organizations by type**  
*Edition 61, 2024/2025 (data collected in 2023)*

Presented in this figure is the number of international organizations currently listed in the database of the *Yearbook of International Organizations*. The organizations are totalled by type (see 1.3 "Types of organization") and by whether they are intergovernmental or not. In addition, totals are given for certain groupings of types ("conventional", "other" and "special"). For other groupings of types, see Figure 2.5.

This figure suggests different answers to the question "How many international organizations are there?"

1. Conventional intergovernmental organizations, when attaching importance to the non-recognition of international non-governmental organizations in terms of international law. (Multilateral treaties, Type T, might be added as closely related international "instruments".)
2. Conventional international bodies, both governmental and non-governmental, when attaching importance to the existence of autonomous international bodies as a social reality.
3. Conventional bodies (Types A to D) plus special forms (Type F), when recognizing the importance of organizational substitutes and unconventional form. (To the latter might be added conference series, Type S, and multilateral treaties, Type T, as forms of organization substitute.)
4. Conventional bodies (Types A to D), special forms (Type F) and religious orders (Type R), when attaching importance to the social reality of the latter as independent actors.
5. Conventional bodies (Types A to D), other international bodies (Types E to G), religious orders (Type R), and multilateral treaties (Type T), when recognizing the international impact of semi-autonomous and nationally tied organizations. (Documentalists might also include inactive bodies, Type H, which figure in the "authority lists" of international organizations.)

Types by group	Intergovernmental			Nongovernmental			Total	
	No. of this type	% of this type	% of this group	No. of this type	% of this type	% of this group	No. of this type	% of this group
<b>GROUP: CONVENTIONAL INTERNATIONAL BODIES</b>								
A. Federations of international organizations	1	2,78	0,34	35	97,22	0,33	36	0,33
B. Universal membership organizations	37	5,95	12,50	585	94,05	5,46	622	5,65
C. Intercontinental membership organizations	40	1,58	13,51	2484	98,42	23,19	2524	22,93
D. Regionally oriented membership organizations	218	2,79	73,65	7606	97,21	71,02	7824	71,09
TOTAL: CONVENTIONAL BODIES	296	2,69	100,00	10710	97,31	100,00	11006	100,00
<b>GROUP: OTHER INTERNATIONAL BODIES</b>								
E. Org's emanating from places, persons, bodies	1000	21,43	52,11	3666	78,57	18,87	4666	21,86
F. Organizations of special form	760	11,37	39,60	5923	88,63	30,49	6683	31,31
G. Internationally oriented national organizations	159	1,59	8,29	9834	98,41	50,63	9993	46,82
TOTAL: OTHER BODIES	1919	8,99	100,00	19423	91,01	100,00	21342	100,00
TOTAL Types E + F	1760	15,51		9589	84,49		11349	
TOTAL Types A B C D E F	2056	9,20		20299	90,80		22355	
TOTAL Types A B C D E F G	2215	6,85		30133	93,15		32348	
<b>GROUP: SPECIAL TYPES</b>								
H. Dissolved or apparently inactive organizations	925	14,59	16,30	5414	85,41	13,84	6339	14,15
J. Recently reported bodies - not yet confirmed	63	3,10	1,11	1967	96,90	5,03	2030	4,53
K. Subsidiary and internal bodies	145	26,70	2,56	398	73,30	1,02	543	1,21
N. National organizations	1	0,03	0,02	3442	99,97	8,80	3443	7,69
R. Religious orders and secular institutes	0	0,00	0,00	910	100,00	2,33	910	2,03
S. Autonomous conference series	88	3,36	1,55	2534	96,64	6,48	2622	5,85
T. Multilateral treaties, intergov'tal agreements	2504	100,00	44,12	0	0,00	0,00	2504	5,59
U. Currently inactive nonconventional bodies	1949	7,38	34,34	24459	92,62	62,52	26408	58,95
TOTAL: SPECIAL TYPES	5675	12,67	100,00	39124	87,33	100,00	44799	100,00
TOTAL Types H + U	2874	8,78		29873	91,22		32747	
<b>TOTAL ALL TYPES</b>	<b>7890</b>	<b>10,23</b>		<b>69257</b>	<b>89,77</b>		<b>77147</b>	