Figure 4.4.
Links between international organizations by subject
Edition 63, 2026/2027 (data collected in 2025)

This table indicates the number of citations from international organizations active in subject fields within a given level of the subject matrix (see Figure 5.1.) to other international organizations active in subject fields within another level of the matrix.

The matrix levels are indicated by the column and row headings: e.g. the label W0 indicates level 0 of the matrix, the label W1 indicates level 1 of the matrix, and so on. The general headings of the matrix rows given here in the left column apply also to the matrix rows given as column headings.

A distinction is made between intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, and between the organizations citing others and organizations being cited by others. Specifically, for each row of the matrix the following counts are given:
- intergovernmental organizations citing other intergovernmental organizations (IGO citing IGO)
- intergovernmental organizations citing non-governmental organizations (IGO citing NGO)
- intergovernmental organizations citing both intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations (IGO citing Total)
- non-governmental organizations citing intergovernmental organizations (NGO citing IGO)
- non-governmental organizations citing other non-governmental organizations (NGO citing NGO)
- non-governmental organizations citing both intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations (NGO citing Total)
- organizations (whether intergovernmental or non-governmental) citing intergovernmental organizations (Total citing IGO)
- organizations (whether intergovernmental or non-governmental) citing non-governmental organizations (Total citing NGO)
- organizations (whether intergovernmental or non-governmental) citing both intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations (Total citing Total)

For example:
- IGOs active in the field of "Biosciences" (matrix level W1: "Biosphere") cite IGOs active in the field of "Conservation" (matrix level 6: "Innovative change - structure") in 1,230 cases: row W1-IGO citing IGO, column W6.
- NGOs active in the field of "Biosciences" (matrix level W1: "Biosphere") cite NGOs active in the field of "Conservation" (matrix level W6: "Innovative change - structure") in 2,996 cases: row W1-NGO citing NGO, column W6.
- NGOs active in the subject field "Health Care" (matrix level 3: "Social action - context") cite IGOs active in the subject field "Community" (matrix level 7: "Innovative change - context") in 3,747 cases: row W3-NGO citing IGO, column W7.

Note that editorial discretion is used when an organization cites links with large numbers of other bodies, especially when such contact is temporary or tenuous: e.g. foundations funding large numbers of NGOs; IGOs collaborating in specific projects of NGOs not otherwise recognized.

Note that the total number of citations given in this table may differ from the totals given in other tables due to intervening editorial work.

MATRIX ROW NUMBER AND HEADING			MATRIX COLUMNS W0	W1	W2	W3	W4	W5	W6	W7	W8	W9	TOTAL
W0 Cosmosphere/ Geosphere	IGO citing	IGO	2586	616	3750	3677	2282	2654	2202	678	806	261	19512
		NGO	1552	572	1649	1126	842	345	915	285	255	49	7590
		Total	4138	1188	5399	4803	3124	2999	3117	963	1061	310	27102
	NGO citing	IGO	1859	444	3183	2984	1704	2684	1986	658	680	276	16458
		NGO	8059	2366	7837	4582	3440	1780	3331	1386	926	202	33909
		Total	9918	2810	11020	7566	5144	4464	5317	2044	1606	478	50367
	Total citing	IGO	4445	1060	6933	6661	3986	5338	4188	1336	1486	537	35970
		NGO	9611	2938	9486	5708	4282	2125	4246	1671	1181	251	41499
		Total	14056	3998	16419	12369	8268	7463	8434	3007	2667	788	77469
W1 Biosphere	IGO citing	IGO	618	992	1844	2329	984	1255	1230	398	424	110	10184
		NGO	374	771	880	842	355	192	505	274	196	27	4416
		Total	992	1763	2724	3171	1339	1447	1735	672	620	137	14600
	NGO citing	IGO	691	1037	3244	3432	1243	2487	1742	792	588	180	15436
		NGO	2279	13722	7617	9481	2385	1755	2996	1729	1062	254	43280
		Total	2970	14759	10861	12913	3628	4242	4738	2521	1650	434	58716
	Total citing	IGO	1309	2029	5088	5761	2227	3742	2972	1190	1012	290	25620
		NGO	2653	14493	8497	10323	2740	1947	3501	2003	1258	281	47696
		Total	3962	16522	13585	16084	4967	5689	6473	3193	2270	571	73316
W2 Social action (structure)	IGO citing	IGO	2823	1411	14780	13416	6102	8310	6737	3251	2972	629	60431
		NGO	1527	1322	7464	4614	1963	1454	2356	2039	793	345	23877
		Total	4350	2733	22244	18030	8065	9764	9093	5290	3765	974	84308
	NGO citing	IGO	2142	1275	16296	12844	6153	11835	8419	5115	2963	865	67907
		NGO	7307	7455	52856	28617	10299	11114	13850	14865	5284	2376	154023
		Total	9449	8730	69152	41461	16452	22949	22269	19980	8247	3241	221930
	Total citing	IGO	4965	2686	31076	26260	12255	20145	15156	8366	5935	1494	128338
		NGO	8834	8777	60320	33231	12262	12568	16206	16904	6077	2721	177900
		Total	13799	11463	91396	59491	24517	32713	31362	25270	12012	4215	306238

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MATRIX ROW NUMBER AND HEADING			MATRIX COLUMNS W0	W1	W2	W3	W4	W5	W6	W7	W8	W9	TOTAL
W3 Social action (context)	IGO citing	IGO	2783	1826	12673	15504	5485	8132	6103	3535	3046	649	59736
		NGO	1448	1395	5311	5070	1662	1351	2092	1452	720	202	20703
		Total	4231	3221	17984	20574	7147	9483	8195	4987	3766	851	80439
	NGO citing	IGO	1580	1280	10739	11256	4024	8668	5807	3747	2142	579	49822
		NGO	4352	9489	28544	40584	7181	11381	9375	9952	3607	1824	126289
		Total	5932	10769	39283	51840	11205	20049	15182	13699	5749	2403	176111
	Total citing	IGO	4363	3106	23412	26760	9509	16800	11910	7282	5188	1228	109558
		NGO	5800	10884	33855	45654	8843	12732	11467	11404	4327	2026	146992
		Total	10163	13990	57267	72414	18352	29532	23377	18686	9515	3254	256550
W4 Concept formation (structure)	IGO citing	IGO	1785	767	6368	5981	3619	4072	3568	1314	1538	335	29347
		NGO	1094	787	3897	2639	1515	883	1580	1083	458	210	14146
		Total	2879	1554	10265	8620	5134	4955	5148	2397	1996	545	43493
	NGO citing	IGO	1054	511	4530	4011	2489	3680	3006	1220	999	396	21896
		NGO	3292	2575	10731	7422	6980	2671	4137	2567	1244	429	42048
		Total	4346	3086	15261	11433	9469	6351	7143	3787	2243	825	63944
	Total citing	IGO	2839	1278	10898	9992	6108	7752	6574	2534	2537	731	51243
		NGO	4386	3362	14628	10061	8495	3554	5717	3650	1702	639	56194
		Total	7225	4640	25526	20053	14603	11306	12291	6184	4239	1370	107437
W5 Concept formation (context)	IGO citing	IGO	1492	764	6165	6826	2907	5969	3230	2137	1591	326	31407
		NGO	1090	961	5027	3635	1446	1578	1809	1875	551	329	18301
		Total	2582	1725	11192	10461	4353	7547	5039	4012	2142	655	49708
	NGO citing	IGO	501	257	2928	3181	1297	3245	1530	1349	596	184	15068
		NGO	1666	1646	10614	10930	2510	10025	4020	5470	1772	1100	49753
		Total	2167	1903	13542	14111	3807	13270	5550	6819	2368	1284	64821
	Total citing	IGO	1993	1021	9093	10007	4204	9214	4760	3486	2187	510	46475
		NGO	2756	2607	15641	14565	3956	11603	5829	7345	2323	1429	68054
		Total	4749	3628	24734	24572	8160	20817	10589	10831	4510	1939	114529
W6 Innovative change (structure)	IGO citing	IGO	1265	788	5431	5250	2777	3788	3632	1293	1349	281	25854
		NGO	641	611	2730	1911	1014	601	1605	695	428	97	10333
		Total	1906	1399	8161	7161	3791	4389	5237	1988	1777	378	36187
	NGO citing	IGO	1035	636	5249	4491	2456	4439	3758	1767	1240	442	25513
		NGO	3268	3258	14634	9584	4193	4346	9332	5282	2740	690	57327
		Total	4303	3894	19883	14075	6649	8785	13090	7049	3980	1132	82840
	Total citing	IGO	2300	1424	10680	9741	5233	8227	7390	3060	2589	723	51367
		NGO	3909	3869	17364	11495	5207	4947	10937	5977	3168	787	67660
		Total	6209	5293	28044	21236	10440	13174	18327	9037	5757	1510	119027
W7 Innovative change (context)	IGO citing	IGO	304	229	2399	2965	862	2029	1158	1218	586	141	11891
		NGO	290	419	2892	2107	602	846	1010	1452	339	226	10183
		Total	594	648	5291	5072	1464	2875	2168	2670	925	367	22074
	NGO citing	IGO	388	386	4028	3336	1483	3876	1741	2180	680	225	18323
		NGO	1162	1635	13909	9164	2340	5462	4701	8816	2071	1211	50471
		Total	1550	2021	17937	12500	3823	9338	6442	10996	2751	1436	68794
	Total citing	IGO	692	615	6427	6301	2345	5905	2899	3398	1266	366	30214
		NGO	1452	2054	16801	11271	2942	6308	5711	10268	2410	1437	60654
		Total	2144	2669	23228	17572	5287	12213	8610	13666	3676	1803	90868
W8 Experiential (values)	IGO citing	IGO	625	346	2958	3205	1508	1842	1705	717	965	141	14012
		NGO	305	257	1297	1017	441	291	672	304	241	38	4863
		Total	930	603	4255	4222	1949	2133	2377	1021	1206	179	18875
	NGO citing	IGO	282	212	1700	1534	665	1306	1052	614	452	97	7914
		NGO	723	905	5017	3350	1013	1833	2371	2138	1450	351	19151
		Total	1005	1117	6717	4884	1678	3139	3423	2752	1902	448	27065
	Total citing	IGO	907	558	4658	4739	2173	3148	2757	1331	1417	238	21926
		NGO	1028	1162	6314	4367	1454	2124	3043	2442	1691	389	24014
		Total	1935	1720	10972	9106	3627	5272	5800	3773	3108	627	45940
W9 Experiential (modes)	IGO citing	IGO	134	67	497	569	209	314	232	169	100	52	2343
		NGO	101	75	490	364	187	118	245	162	56	31	1829
		Total	235	142	987	933	396	432	477	331	156	83	4172
	NGO citing	IGO	73	46	643	501	282	637	271	347	106	52	2958
		NGO	165	218	2187	1680	378	1069	597	1152	343	485	8274
		Total	238	264	2830	2181	660	1706	868	1499	449	537	11232
	Total citing	IGO	207	113	1140	1070	491	951	503	516	206	104	5301
		NGO	266	293	2677	2044	565	1187	842	1314	399	516	10103
		Total	473	406	3817	3114	1056	2138	1345	1830	605	620	15404

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