

ANNUAL  
REPORT

1 OCT 2022 - 30 SEPT 2023

# IAU

The global voice of  
higher education

20  
23



INTERNATIONAL  
ASSOCIATION OF  
UNIVERSITIES  
INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITIES BUREAU

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## Message from the IAU President



One year into my term as president of the IAU, I am pleased to reflect upon the achievements and progress we have made together serving as the global voice of higher education. It has been a challenging year for universities in many parts of the world, as international conflicts, geopolitics and national politics have increasingly impinged on university autonomy and missions. I am inspired by the values that we share as universities and the collective dedication and passion that drives our shared purpose in the face of these obstacles, and I extend my gratitude to our Members and partners for their unwavering commitment to the IAU's mission and vision. Together, we have navigated challenges, celebrated accomplishments, and forged stronger bonds within our international community.

Our global conferences took us from Dublin to Doha this year, and it was a pleasure to be welcomed onto the campuses of both University College Dublin and Qatar University. These global conferences delved into the vital topics of the *Relevance and Value of Universities to Future Society* and *Higher Education with Impact - the Importance of Intercultural Learning and Dialogue*. These events not only showcased the complementary diversity of our community but also emphasised our commitment to addressing global challenges through collaborative efforts.

Additionally, I am proud of the various publications the IAU has produced this past year. These publications, such as the 3<sup>rd</sup> Global Survey Report on Higher Education and Research for Sustainable Development and the qualitative report "Digitalisation of Administrative Services in Universities," serve as a testament to the wealth of knowledge within our association and contribute to the advancement of higher education on a global scale. Furthermore,

our active participation in various global events has amplified our voice and strengthened our position as a leader in the global higher education community.

Looking ahead, we have many exciting prospects on the horizon. The upcoming global IAU Conference to be hosted by Sophia University in Tokyo, Japan in November 2024 promises to be another significant gathering. This event will serve as a platform for further discussions on pressing issues in higher education and will provide us with the opportunity to forge new partnerships and collaborations.

Moreover, we are committed to expanding the IAU's Membership community, ensuring that our association continues to be a diverse and inclusive representation of the global higher education landscape. In doing so, we continue to strengthen our Membership benefits via our priority areas of work: values-based leadership, internationalization, sustainable development, and digitalization. Specifically, programmes within these priority areas, such as the ISAS (2.0) internationalization training programme, the Executive Leadership Programme (ELP), Institutional Site Visits on the digitalization of higher education, and the HESD global Cluster for the SDGs, will continue to develop in order to better suit the needs of our global community.

As we move forward in 2024, let us continue our collective efforts towards advancing the cause of higher education worldwide and position the sector as a key stakeholder in society. As the only global and most inclusive association of universities worldwide, the IAU provides great value to its Members and the broader higher education community.

I hope to see you at IAU events throughout the year and in Japan in November.

**Andrew J. Deeks**

IAU President 2022-2026

Vice Chancellor and President, Murdoch University, Australia

## Message from the Secretary-General



I am pleased to welcome you to the 2023 annual Report. This financial year began with the IAU General Conference that was hosted by University College Dublin, in Ireland. The General Conference saw the election of IAU president Andrew Deeks, President and Vice Chancellor of Murdoch University and the election of the members of the Administrative Board 2022-2026. The new Board adopted the four year strategic plan and validated the audited financial statements, a summary of which is published in this report. This General Conference thus marked the start of four years of implementation of a new cycle of activities.

This financial year saw the establishment of four working groups led by the newly appointed members of the IAU Executive Committee. These gender balanced and regionally representative working groups provide the Secretariat with invaluable guidance in the context of the four strategic priorities of the strategic plan: value-based leadership; internationalization for society and the global common good; higher education and research for sustainable development (HESD); and the digital transformation of higher education. In addition, this year saw the development of the following initiatives: the brand new Executive Leadership Programme (ELP); the collection of data for the 6th IAU Global Survey on Internationalisation; the launch of a revamped HESD global Portal, the IAU 3rd Global Survey on HESD, and the reinforcement

of the IAU Global Cluster on HESD; the advent of a working Group on Open Science and preparation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Global Survey on the Digital Transformation of HE. The IAU Webinar series likewise led to stimulating international debates on key issues of importance to the higher education community and for society more broadly.

The year was also dedicated to the preparation of the IAU 2023 International Conference, hosted by Qatar University, in Doha. The Conference focused on the important role of higher education in fostering intercultural learning and dialogue. The high level programme attracted some 300 participants from around the world. We also were pleased to host the IAU Global Meeting of Associations. We thank all the speakers and participants who shared their insights both in Dublin in 2022 and in Doha in 2023. The IAU global events are essential in the life of the Association as they offer a unique forum for global and peer exchange of ideas. The lively debates that took place inside and outside conference sessions have led to the development of new cooperative initiatives and the consolidation of partnerships. In November 2024, we will be pleased to welcome you to the IAU 2024 International Conference to be hosted by Sophia University in Tokyo, Japan.

Last but not least, the past year has been marked by strategic engagement in a large number of Member and partner initiatives around the world, as well as by the reinforcement of the IAU work on advocacy for the role of higher education for society.

I invite our Members to engage strongly in the opportunities offered and to support the IAU mission and vision in their various networks and partnerships.

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

A handwritten signature in white ink on a dark teal background. The signature is stylized and appears to read 'Hilligje van't Land'.

# VISION AND MISSION

## IAU – *The Global Voice of Higher Education*

The **IAU's Vision** is for the Association to be the global voice of higher education by advocating for and advancing a dynamic leadership role for higher education in society, articulating the fundamental values and principles that underpin education, disseminating and applying knowledge, and acting as an influential and representative global association of diverse higher education institutions and their organisations. The IAU is a think tank and forum for the development of new approaches, the sharing of best practice & the undertaking of joint action.

The **IAU's Mission** is to contribute to peace and human development by promoting and enhancing the power of higher education to transform lives through capacity building, connecting diverse peoples, generating and disseminating new knowledge, creating meaningful insights, and finding sustainable solutions to local and global challenges.



### A Standard and Trendsetter

The IAU maintains an open and constructive dialogue with its Members, as well as with national and international organisations. This commitment allows the IAU to accurately represent the diverse higher education community, contribute to informed policy-making, provide recommendations, and advocate for strong, accessible, and equitable higher education systems globally. As a standard and trend setter, the IAU develops Policy Statements on issues of global concern for higher education.



### A Facilitator for International Collaboration

The IAU organises global events and webinars with speakers and facilitators from different regions around the world. These initiatives foster mutual exchange and dialogue across the IAU's four thematic priority areas, promoting collaboration, networking, and the establishment of strategic partnerships.



### A Capacity Builder

The IAU offers capacity-building and advisory services to support institutional development at every stage. The IAU continuously develops and improves the programmes and services available to Members. ISAS (2.0) has been developed to help Members review, develop or revise their internationalization policies, strategies and programmes. Institutional Site Visits on the digital transformation of HE connect universities around the world for exchange on innovations related to digital transformation, including teaching & learning and research. The Executive Leadership Programme (IAU-ELP) provides current and emerging university leaders with the tools and networks their universities need for success.



### A Think Tank and Knowledge Hub

The IAU conducts research on the higher education sector and on institution specific issues. The Association further ensures the dissemination of relevant knowledge and data in relation to its strategic priorities, as well as information relevant to current events and ongoing sectoral debates.



### A Centre for Communications

In its capacity as a centre for communications, the IAU disseminates information to the broader global higher education community, including universities and other higher education institutions, national and multilateral organisations, and government agencies.

# GOVERNANCE

The IAU Administrative Board held its 91<sup>st</sup> meeting at the IAU 16<sup>th</sup> General Conference hosted by University College Dublin in October 2022. This meeting welcomed the 2022-2026 Administrative Board and adopted the Strategy 2030 for the Association.

The Administrative Board also met at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris in March 2023 for its first meeting since elections took place in October 2022. At this meeting, the Administrative Board approved President Andrew Deeks's proposals for Vice Presidents, and the Executive Committee was thus formed. The Administrative Board moreover reaffirmed the Association's values, missions, and vision by emphasising the core link of IAU work to the moral obligation of institutions to work together and connect at the global level. With regard to the Association's priority area work, the Board 1) approved a proposal to develop a new leadership capacity building programme; 2) decided to continue conducting global surveys on internationalization and place priority on the ISAS(2.0) training programme; 3) discussed the opportunity to develop guidelines to help HEIs classify, monitor and report on sustainable development initiatives; and 4) considered the necessity to address inequalities induced by digital divides and proposed activities to support HEIs' digital transformations.



92<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the IAU Administrative Board, March 2023.



➔ **About IAU / Governance Structure**

<https://iau-aiu.net/Governance-Structure>

## IAU Administrative Board

### 2022-2026

#### PRESIDENT

**Andrew Deeks**, *Vice-Chancellor and President, Murdoch University, Australia*

#### IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

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

#### MEMBERS

##### Africa

**Sunungurai Dominica Chingarande**, *Vice Chancellor, Women's University of Africa, Zimbabwe*

**Jouhaina Gherib**, *President, University of Manouba, Tunisia (IAU Vice President)*

**Abdul-Rasheed Na'Allah**, *Vice-Chancellor, University of Abuja, Nigeria*

##### Americas

**Patrick Deane**, *Principal and Vice-Chancellor, Queen's University, Canada (IAU Vice President and Treasurer)*

**Fernando Leon-Garcia**, *President, CETYS University, Mexico*

**David Quigley**, *Provost and Dean of Faculties, Boston College, USA*

**Ignacio Sánchez Díaz**, *President of the Pontifical Catholic University of Chile, Chile*

##### Asia & Pacific

**Mohd Hamdi Abd Shukor**, *Vice Chancellor, University Malaya, Malaysia (IAU Vice President)*

**Hassan Al-Derham**, *President, Qatar University, Qatar*

**Salim Daccache**, *Rector, Saint Joseph University of Beirut, Lebanon*

**Samit Ray**, *Chancellor, Adamas University, India*

**Yoshiaki Terumichi**, *President, Sophia University, Japan*



##### Europe

**Peter Aronsson**, *Vice-Chancellor, Linnaeus University, Sweden*

**Shahin Bayramov**, *Rector, Mingachevir State University, Azerbaijan*

**Henk Kummeling**, *Rector Magnificus, Utrecht University, The Netherlands*

**Miquel Nicolau-Vila**, *Rector, University of Andorra, Andorra*

**Inga Žalėnienė**, *Rector, Mykolas Romeris University, Lithuania (IAU Vice President)*

##### Organisations

**Roberto Escalante**, *Secretary General, UDUAL, Mexico*

**Cristina Montalvão Sarmiento**, *Secretary General, Association of Portuguese Speaking Universities, Portugal (IAU Vice President)*

#### DEPUTY MEMBERS

##### Africa

**Nana Aba Appiah Amfo**, *Vice-Chancellor, University of Ghana, Ghana*

**Wondwosen Tamrat**, *President, St. Mary's University, Ethiopia*

##### Organisations

**David Julien**, *Secretary General, Inter-American Organization for Higher Education, Canada*

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

#### HONORARY PRESIDENTS

**Dzulkifli Abdul Razak**, *President 2012-2016, Rector, International Islamic University of Malaysia, Malaysia*

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

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

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

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

## GLOBAL EVENTS

### 16<sup>th</sup> General Conference

The IAU 16<sup>th</sup> General Conference took place in Ireland in October 2022, drawing together a diverse assembly of 300 delegates representing 70 countries. Graciously hosted by University College Dublin (UCD), participants were welcomed by students and staff alike. Against the backdrop of UCD's vibrant campus, IAU Members came together to make pivotal decisions for the future of the association and to discuss the trajectory of the IAU for the years ahead.

Central to the conference's agenda was the election of the 2022-2026 Administrative Board and President, setting the stage for leadership and governance within the Association. Additionally, the new Board collectively charted the strategic course for the next years at the IAU, contemplating its role in the evolving landscape of global higher education.

The overarching theme of the conference, "[Relevance and Value of Universities to Future Society](#)," provided a framework for dynamic debates on pressing issues facing academia and society at large. Participants engaged in conversations concerning the reforms imperative for higher education, the demand to democratise knowledge for societal benefit, and the need for innovation to foster responsive teaching, learning, and research practices.

Amidst these deliberations, there was a palpable sense of urgency to address the multifaceted challenges of the modern era. Discussions revolved around the necessity for universities to adapt and evolve, not only to meet the needs of contemporary society but also to anticipate and shape its future trajectory. Emphasis was placed on fostering inclusivity, sustainability, and innovation as foundational pillars of higher education for building resilient and equitable societies.

The conference served as a crucible for ideas, fostering collaboration and solidarity among attendees committed to advancing the global mission of higher education. As the conference closed, delegates were left energised by the exchange of ideas and perspectives, they carried with them a renewed sense of purpose and a shared commitment to harnessing the transformative potential of universities for the betterment of humanity.



### IAU International Conference 2023

The IAU 2023 International Conference, hosted by Qatar University in Doha, convened some 300 participants from around the world to discuss "[Higher Education with Impact: the Importance of Intercultural Learning and Dialogue](#)." The conference explored how universities around the world promote and support intercultural learning and dialogue and the impact geopolitics has on this goal.

During the session "The Impact of Geopolitics on the Future of International Cooperation," participants were reminded that universities have been around longer than states, and they have a great responsibility and legacy for future generations. Resulting conversations considered the need to move beyond rhetoric towards action, the constantly evolving landscape of digital transformation, the urgent need for sustainable development, and the necessity of intercultural competencies.

Following these conversations and their corresponding sessions, IAU Secretary General Hilligje van't Land closed the conference by reminding participants that intercultural learning does not only enrich academic experience but also nurtures responsible global citizens capable of effecting positive change. Moreover, she noted that universities and the higher education sector must embrace this broad agenda and question the efficiency-efficacy agenda which calls for purely "efficient" higher education.

Given the imperative for intercultural education and the cultivation of global citizens, the IAU assumes a pivotal role in shaping the trajectory of higher education and societal progress. Functioning as a global association dedicated to fostering partnerships and internationalization, the IAU uniquely facilitates crucial conversations on complicated



issues facing the higher education community by uniting Members worldwide.

➔ **Session presentations are available on the Conference website:**  
[www.IAUDoha2023.net](http://www.IAUDoha2023.net)

## 2023 Global Meeting of Associations (GMA)

The IAU Global Meeting of Associations (GMA) is the biannual gathering of IAU Member associations and organisations. It took place on 25 November 2023 at Qatar University in Doha prior to the IAU International Conference. It had the same theme as the conference, *Higher Education with Impact: the Importance of Intercultural Learning and Dialogue*, and was divided in three panel sessions, each with contributions from three speakers.

The first session “The role of languages in intercultural learning and dialogue” counted on the contributions of the Association of Indian Universities, the Association of Universities of

Latin America and the Caribbean (UDUAL), and UNIMED - Mediterranean Universities Union. Discussions focused on the relations between language and culture and the role of languages in intercultural learning and dialogue.

In the second session, “Interaction of diverse cultural groups at local institutional level,” the Inter-American Organization for Higher Education (OUI-IOHE), the Japan Association of National Universities (JANU), and the University of the Arctic (UARctic) presented perspectives from different regions on how university associations work with their Members to foster integration and dialogue among diverse cultural groups within the institution and in relation to society.

Finally, in the third panel “The effect of the digital transformation on intercultural learning and dialogue,” the European University Association (EUA), the Association of Portuguese Speaking Universities (AULP), and the Association of Arab Universities (AARU) discussed the positive and negative consequences of the digital transformation on intercultural learning and dialogue in their respective contexts.

The three panel discussions were preceded by a round of short presentations of each of the 18 associations attending the meeting.

## IAU Representation at Events

Over the past year, the IAU has been pleased to take part and speak at many events and conferences around the world. See below both events hosted by IAU partners and Members, as well as those hosted by the United Nations and their affiliated bodies with whom the IAU works to shape the future of higher education. The IAU's four priority areas align with the themes of these conferences, which provide an opportunity for the IAU to address the most pressing issues confronting the higher education sector in these domains. More information, including presentations and conference materials, are available on the [IAU website](#).

### GLOBAL EVENTS

#### September 2023

##### EAIE 2023 Conference

Rotterdam, the Netherlands

##### Innovations in the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (iSoTL) Conference

Online

#### August 2023

##### IEASA Conference and NIEA Meeting

Durban, South Africa

#### June 2023

##### Higher Education Reform (HER) Conference

Glasgow, Scotland

##### ARES Summer School on Internationalization

Brussels, Belgium

##### ANGEL Conference at UNESCO

Paris, France

##### Annual Joint Meeting of the ENIC and NARIC Networks

Stockholm, Sweden

##### CIHE 2023 Biennial Conference on International Higher Education

Boston, USA

#### June 2023

##### 75<sup>th</sup> NAFSA Annual Conference & Expo and First NIEA Meeting

Washington, D.C., USA

#### May 2023

##### 4<sup>th</sup> UArctic Assembly,

Québec, Canada

##### 5<sup>th</sup> Universia International Rectors' Summit

Barcelona, Spain

#### April 2023

##### EUA Annual Conference

Gdansk, Poland

#### March 2023

##### The Role of Higher Education to Contribute to the SDGs on the Way Towards a More Sustainable Future

Online

##### ASEF ARC9 Report Launch Event

Online

#### February 2023

##### US Transforming Education Summit

Online

#### January 2023

##### SDG 14 Meeting

Cape Town, South Africa

#### November 2022

##### RCEP / UAE on Future Scenarios for HE

Online

##### Sustainable on the Go 2022 (SOTG 22)

Online

### UNITED NATIONS EVENTS

#### September 2023

##### UNESCO Digital Learning Week 2023

Paris, France

The IAU contributed to the UNESCO Digital Learning Week 2023 which brought together educators, policy makers, private sector partners, researchers, and other stakeholders "to steer the human-centred digital transformation of education."

#### July 2023

##### United Nations High Level Political Forum (HLPF)

Online

The IAU took part in the UN HLPF which focused on "accelerating the recovery from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at all levels."

##### Revision of the 1974 Recommendation: UNESCO Member States Reach Consensus

Paris, France

The 1974 Recommendation is an international standard-setting instrument that articulates education's role in building peace, human rights, international understanding, cooperation, fundamental freedoms, global citizenship and sustainable development. It establishes international principles and standards for governing education. To ensure its continued relevance, experts from 112 countries and 50 partner organisations, including the IAU, met in Paris to agree to a revised text to be adopted by all UNESCO Member States at its General Conference in November 2023.



Pictured clockwise: IAU Secretary General Hilligje van't Land presenting at the EAIE Conference; IAU Secretary General Hilligje van't Land speaking on a panel at the Universia International Rectors Summit 2023; IAU Secretary General Hilligje van't Land and Programme Officer for Sustainable Development Isabel Toman presenting at the ANGEL Conference at UNESCO; IAU Secretary General Hilligje van't Land speaking on a panel at the ESD-Net 2030 Regional Meeting.

## June 2023

### UNESCO ESD-Net 2030: Europe-North America Regional Meeting

Paris, France

As a partner of ESD-Net 2030, the IAU was invited to address the audience as part of a panel during the ESD-Net 2030 Regional Meeting in Paris, co-organized by UNESCO, UNECE, and the European Commission.

## March 2023

### Higher Education at the United Nations 2023 Water Conference

Online

The IAU supported an official side event organised by the University of Bergen and other partners at the UN 2023 Water Conference (UNWC23).

## December 2022

### Ubuntu Committee of Peers Meeting at UNU

Tokyo, Japan

The IAU continues to sit on the Ubuntu Committee of Peers, and was pleased to meet with colleagues at United Nations University to reflect on the past, present and future of Regional Centres of Expertise on ESD (RCEs).

## November 2022

### 2022 United Nations Transforming Education Summit Online

Hilligje van't Land, IAU Secretary General, moderated plenary 1 with the keynote speaker Leonardo Garnier, Special Advisor for the 2022 United Nations Transforming Education Summit, Costa Rica. Furthermore, the IAU hosted a Networking Session, which was facilitated by Giorgio Marinoni, Manager, Internationalization.

### UNESCO Chairs 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference

Paris, France

The IAU attended the 2-day UNESCO UNITWIN Chairs Conference on the occasion of the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the programme which connects academics, HEIs and UNESCO's work all over the globe. IAU Secretary General Hilligje van't Land, was the keynote speaker on the plenary "Responding to Multi-dimensional Crises: Implications for Research,"



Learn more about IAU at Events:  
[www.IAU-AIU.net/IAU-at-events](http://www.IAU-AIU.net/IAU-at-events)

# THEMATIC PRIORITIES

## IAU STRATEGY 2030

The IAU works to enhance the higher education community's role and actions in advancing societies worldwide.

The **IAU Strategy 2030** affirms the IAU's focus on four key higher education priority areas.

### These priority areas are:

- Globally-engaged and Values-based **Leadership**;
- **Internationalization** for Society and the Global Common Good;
- Higher Education and Research for **Sustainable Development**;
- **Digital Transformation** of Higher Education.

## CORE VALUES

IAU promotes **core values** among its Members and the wider higher education community including:

- Academic freedom, institutional autonomy, and social responsibility locally and globally
- Cooperation and solidarity based on mutuality of interests and shared benefits
- Tolerance of divergent opinions and freedom from political interference
- Equity in access and success in higher education and open access to knowledge
- Scientific integrity and ethical behaviour as cornerstones of conduct for all stakeholders in higher education
- Higher education and research in the public interest
- Quality in learning, research, and outreach

## **Values-based Leadership**

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

As a global forum for leaders of institutions and associations, the IAU exposes university leaders to the newest thinking in higher education and functions as a source of inspiration and strategic orientation. The IAU provides its Members with thought leadership on the most pressing issues of concern to higher education at its conferences and webinars and in publications. Moreover, concrete capacity-building for university leaders is central to the IAU's work. The Leadership priority area aims to inspire and develop institutions to be able to aptly respond to complex institutional challenges and drive social transformation.

### Capacity-Building Programme

The IAU developed a year-long capacity building programme for current and emerging university leaders, called the [IAU Executive Leadership Programme \(ELP\)](#). This one-year programme covers central aspects of higher education





The first in person meeting of the 2023-2024 cohort of the Executive Leadership Programme.

management and empowers university leaders to navigate the contextual and political dimensions of university leadership. It includes both face-to face elements at its opening in Doha and its closure at the next IAU 2024 International Conference at Sophia University in Tokyo, and online participation throughout the year. In addition to the ten modules addressing pertinent higher education leadership issues, participants will engage in Action Learning Groups for true peer to peer exchange and learning.

The format and design of this capacity-building programme centres around three points:

1. To develop a framework with which to address the fundamental aspects of higher education management and to navigate the big managerial, ethical, economical and societal questions universities are facing
2. To provide for a stimulating and enriching programme by recruiting eminent and experienced facilitators
3. To ensure accessibility for all interested applicants through low tuition fees and a hybrid learning model

With the generous support of distinguished university leaders and higher education experts as facilitators, the IAU is pleased to have developed a programme which is suited for university leaders from all around the world. It is thanks to these facilitators who generously share their knowledge and skills

with this programme, as well as the valuable insight from the IAU Leadership Working Group, that the development of the ELP has been so successful.

## Key Leadership Events

Other leadership activities include the IAU's online contribution to the *2022 Annual International Forum on Higher Education* in Wuhan, China and the First International Forum on Higher Education in Mongolia in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. Resulting recommendations of the latter were received by the Minister of Education of Mongolia as part of the government's agenda to reform the Mongolian higher education sector.

### In Memoriam:

Justin Thorens (1931-2023), 8<sup>th</sup> President of the IAU, was an instrumental leader in the higher education community and an advocate for value-based leadership.



### Priorities / Leadership

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

IAU Leadership: <https://www.iau-aiu.net/Leadership>



## Internationalization for Society and the Global Common Good

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



IAU Manager for Internationalization Giorgio Marinoni at the NAFSA Conference in May 2023 with members of NIEA.

### Vision and Mission of Internationalization at the IAU

The vision and mission of internationalization at the IAU and the scope of the [Working Group \(WG\)](#) were decided and approved by the IAU Administrative Board prior to the General Conference in Dublin in late 2022. The Administrative Board further approved the Internationalization Action Plan.

#### Internationalization Working Group

The Working Group held two online meetings on 2 May and 20 June 2023 in which the composition of the WG was finalised with the inclusion of Board Members and IAU Senior Fellow and former Secretary General Eva Egron-Polak. The WG meetings focused mainly on the **6<sup>th</sup> IAU Global Survey on Internationalization of Higher Education**. They also prepared a proposal to the Administrative Board on the revision of the [ISAS \(2.0\) programme](#), which was later approved by the Administrative Board at the IAU 2023 International Conference in Doha.

### Sixth edition of the Global Survey on Internationalization of Higher Education

The [6<sup>th</sup> edition of the Global Survey on the Internationalization of Higher Education](#) was conducted in 2023. It was a

collaborative effort between the IAU and partner organisations. The full list of supporting organisations is available on the IAU website.

The survey collected 722 unique replies from higher education Institutions in 110 countries and territories around the world. The data was analysed at both global and regional levels, and the results have already been presented at various conferences and events. The IAU will publish the full report in mid-March 2024.

### Partnerships for Internationalization

#### Network of International Education Associations (NIEA)

The [Network of International Education Associations \(NIEA\)](#), coordinated by the IAU, held two meetings in 2023 at the NAFSA and IEASA conferences in May and August 2023 respectively. At the latter meeting, it was decided to organise the third **Global Dialogue on Internationalization of Higher Education** in South Africa in 2024.

#### Future of Internationalization Partnership (FIP) Project

The Future of Internationalization Partnership (FIP) is a three-year project that began in May 2021. Funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC),

the project 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.

FIP aims to deepen theoretical understanding of how internationalization is changing in response to global pressures. During the second year, the project designed some questions that were included in the sixth edition of the IAU Global Survey on Internationalization, which address emerging issues on internationalization. In the third year, the project began collecting case studies. The project has been prolonged for another year and will therefore end in 2025.

### COST Action - European Network on International Student Mobility: Connecting Research and Practice - ENIS

ENIS brings together established researchers, early-career investigators (ECIs) and PhD students from different scientific disciplines, countries, and research communities as well as stakeholders from international offices, international student and study abroad organisations, and different policy levels.

In 2023 Giorgio Marinoni, Manager HE and Internationalization, was elected chair of the **ENIS Working Group 5: Connecting Research and Practice**. He also contributed to the thematic review conducted by WG1 on The Impact of COVID-19 on Higher Education, which will be published in a special issue of "Comparative Migration Studies" in 2024.

### Online Diploma on the Management of Higher Education Internationalization

In collaboration with the UNESCO Chair for Internationalization of Higher Education and Global Citizenship of the University of Guadalajara, the IAU organised an online diploma on the [Management of Higher Education Internationalization](#). This first edition was particularly focused on Latin America. Consecutive editions will either focus on other regions of the world or take a more global outlook.



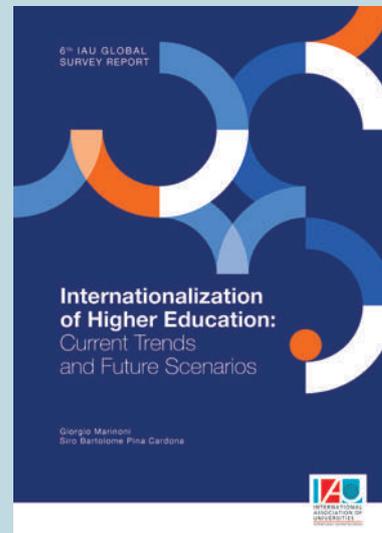
### Priorities / Internationalization Internationalization for Society and the Global Common Good

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

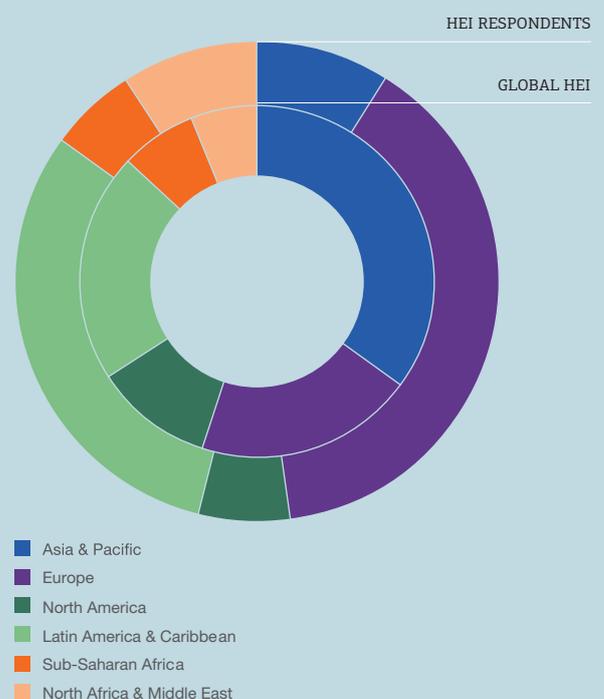
IAU Internationalization:

<https://www.iau-aiu.net/Internationalization>

## Regional representation in the survey results



The IAU 6<sup>th</sup> Global Survey on Internationalization collected results from over 110 countries and territories. However, the 722 responses indicate an overrepresentation of HEIs in Europe and Latin America & the Caribbean relative to the number of institutions in each region according to the IAU WHED. This implies that some regions had a higher or lower response rate than expected, resulting in potential biases in the survey.



The full survey report will be available online from March 2024.



## Sustainable development

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

Initiatives undertaken in the context of the IAU thematic priority Higher Education and Research for Sustainable Development (HESD) include the following:

### HESD Working Group

To achieve the goals set in the IAU Strategy 2030, the HESD actions are structured around key activities and communication with Members and partners. IAU HESD work is supported by experts from the IAU HESD Cluster and the [HESD Working Group \(WG\)](#). In 2023, the WG confirmed Jouhaina Gherib as WG Chair and the three main lines of action for HESD: Advice & Advocate, Build Synergies & Network, Communicate & Convene. The WG furthermore identified Membership engagement and communication in HESD work as priorities.

### Launch of the 3<sup>rd</sup> IAU Global Survey on HESD Report



In January 2023, the IAU published the [report](#) of the third global survey on Higher Education and Research for Sustainable Development (HESD), which was conducted in 2022. In total, 464 valid responses from higher education institutions in 120 countries were collected. The findings show that higher education and partnerships are essential to address the global challenges identified in

the UN Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and to build a more sustainable future together. Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) are in a unique position to foster the engagement with sustainable development (SD) taking a whole-institution approach to teaching and learning, research and community engagement. Furthermore, the survey looked closer at partnerships, leadership and strategy for SD, and the relatively new concept of Climate Change Education (CCE).

### 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 2030 Agenda. Initiated in early 2018, the Cluster now brings together more than 80

universities around the world, with 16 universities taking the lead on one SDG sub-cluster. The IAU leads on SDG 17: *Partnerships for the goals*. The IAU HESD Cluster held two virtual meetings with the entire Cluster this year, in addition to various sub-group meetings throughout the year. During the meetings, the Cluster members presented current activities and discussed joint projects. The Cluster Activity report 2022-23 can be found [here](#).

### Key UNESCO Engagement

#### ESD for 2030 Global Network

The IAU is a partner in the [ESD for 2030 Network](#) and launched at the UNESCO World Conference on ESD in 2021. The IAU supports the Berlin declaration and the ESD for 2030 Roadmap. In March 2023, the IAU facilitated a UNESCO Webinar on ESD Pedagogy, and in June 2023, the IAU was invited to attend and speak at the [ESD for 2030 Regional Meeting in Paris](#) at UNESCO HQ.

#### UNESCO UNITWIN Chairs Conference November 2022

The IAU attended the 2-day [UNESCO UNITWIN Chairs Conference](#) at UNESCO HQ in Paris, on the occasion of the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the programme which connects academics, HEIs and UNESCO's work all over the globe. IAU Secretary General Hilligje van't Land spoke on the plenary *Responding to Multi-dimensional Crises: Implications for Research*. She stressed the importance of collaboration in higher education for democracy, fairness, and inclusion to transform knowledge systems for the future, including the role of research to achieve this. The IAU met with many UNESCO Chairholders that are also IAU Member representatives, as well as colleagues from UNESCO IESALC and IIEP, amongst others.

#### UN High Level Political Forum (HLPF) 2023

The IAU actively participated in the HLPF 2023 for the fifth consecutive year, providing information to its Members and mobilising higher education for SDGs. Next to attending the Award Ceremony of the International Green Gown Awards (IGGAs) and the annual HESI event, the IAU co-organised two virtual events. These two events were titled *How Do We Know What We Know About Water: Community and Partnership-Based Approaches to Capacity Building in the Water Sector* and *Progress, Challenges, Lessons Learned and Tools for Sustainable Transformation of Cities*. Learn more about these events on page 22.



Secretary General Hilligje van't Land and Programme Officer for Sustainable Development Isabel Toman representing the IAU at the ESD-Net 2030 Regional Meeting.

### Other events of importance for HESD included:

The Sustainable on the Go 2022 Conference ([SOTG22](#)), a [workshop on Teaching and Learning](#) relating to Ocean and Climate (SDG 13 and 14), meeting with the SDG 14 Cluster and University of Bergen in Cape Town, the first in-person [SDG 3 Cluster meeting](#) organised by UOC in Barcelona, an IAU session around SDG 4 at the [ANGEL Conference at UNESCO, HER23 Glasgow](#), and the [SDG 8 Cluster Meeting](#) and Workshop at the University of Gothenburg, amongst others.

### Partnerships

The IAU HESD work supports UNESCO initiatives, in particular the ESD related initiatives, and the Futures of Education initiative. Furthermore, the IAU works in synergy with partner networks to further enhance the work on HESD.

### Other HESD Projects in the period under review include:

- ▶ As part of the general partnership with University World News, the IAU collaborates with the UWN for the [UWN SDG Hub](#) by offering stronger visibility to the IAU and its Members on SD.
- ▶ The [IAU - SOS UK Responsible Futures International Programme](#) Pilot was launched with the first group of 7 universities. The training and co-creation programme will continue over the next year and conclude at the IAU International Conference 2024.
- ▶ The IAU is a partner of [UNESCO's Greening Education Partnership](#), which includes attending working group meetings and engaging with UNESCO work on ESD and at

COP28 initiatives. The IAU was also invited onto the board of the UNESCO IOC Ocean Decade NGO Task Group (SDG 14).

- ▶ **UNODC:** In the context of the Education for Justice (E4J) initiative, this partnership with the UNODC continues within the new [GRACE initiative](#). Organised by the UNODC, the IAU gave a presentation on the work of the Association for delegations at UNESCO. Furthermore, IAU Secretary General Hilligje van't Land was invited to join the panel on the *Role of Higher Education in Achieving SDG 16* at a virtual event organised by USAID and UNODC on the occasion of the launch of the UNODC University Modules in Ukraine.
- ▶ The IAU was also pleased to work with the OECD, ACU, AUF, HESI, MECCE, the Regional Centres of Expertise on ESD, Sulitest, and SDSN France on various projects throughout the year.

#### In Memoriam:

Hans van Ginkel (1940-2023), 11<sup>th</sup> President of the IAU, was a visionary leader in the higher education community, who worked extensively to advance higher education and research for sustainable development around the world. In doing so, he personally oversaw the establishment and development of the HESD priority area at the IAU



#### ➔ Priorities / Sustainable Development (HESD)

Contact: Isabel Toman ([i.toman@iau-aiu.net](mailto:i.toman@iau-aiu.net))  
IAU Global Portal on HESD: [www.iau-hesd.net](http://www.iau-hesd.net)  
IAU HESD: <https://www.iau-aiu.net/HESD>

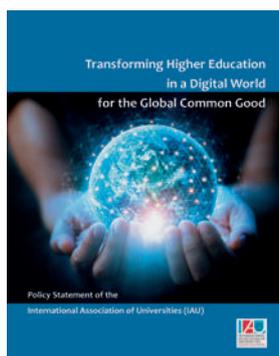


## Digital transformation of higher education

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

At the 16<sup>th</sup> General Conference, the newly elected Administrative Board adopted the IAU Strategy 2030 and reaffirmed the 4 strategic priorities of the Association, including *Digital Transformation of Higher Education*. The first part of the year was therefore devoted to strategic discussions with the dedicated Administrative Board working group on digital transformation, chaired by Mohd Hamdi Abd Shukur, then Vice-Chancellor of the University of Malaya, Malaysia. This work has resulted in the continuation of several ongoing activities. It also led to new initiatives particularly focusing on Open Science and the impact of Generative Artificial Intelligence in higher education. The main achievements are highlighted on these pages.

### 1) Normative function



The IAU Policy Statement: [Transforming Higher Education in the Digital World for the Global Common Good](#) was adopted during the IAU 16<sup>th</sup> General Conference at a time that has seen an unprecedented acceleration of digital transformation at universities around the world. The Policy Statement outlines essential values and principles that must

underpin digital transformation. It serves as the guiding framework for the different actions and activities which are implemented by the IAU. The IAU will continue to nurture a shared commitment to build a humanistic, ethical, inclusive and purpose-based digital transformation of higher education for the global common good.

### Open Science Expert Group

**EXPERT GROUP  
OPEN SCIENCE**  
FOR THE FACILITATION OF PEER-  
LEARNING AND EXCHANGE OF  
EXPERIENCE



A recent initiative, established in the past year, is the international [Open Science Expert Group](#). It brings together global expertise to discuss how universities can contribute to implementing the norms and principles outlined in the IAU

Policy Statement, which recognizes the UNESCO Recommendation on Open Science. The purpose of the expert group is to support university leadership in promoting and contributing to the transition towards Open Science at the institutional level. The expert group will provide advice and recommendations and expose options and experiences for inspiration. The Expert Group will also identify different aspects at stake in different parts of the world to raise awareness about the need to collaborate at the global scale to ensure a fair and inclusive transition towards Open Science.

### 2) Monitoring function

The first *Global Survey on the State of Digital Transformation in Higher Education* was launched in January 2020 just before the COVID-19 pandemic, which accelerated in unprecedented ways the reliance of digital technologies for accomplishing the mandate of higher education institutions. In this past year, an [Advisory Committee](#) has been established with representatives from all regions of the world to support the elaboration of the *Second Global Survey on the State of Digital Transformation in Higher Education* which will include data collection on the impact of generative AI and on the state of implementation of Open Science. The data collection for this survey is foreseen in 2024.

### 3) Capacity Building and Peer-to-Peer Learning

#### Institutional Site Visits

The IAU is pleased to announce that after a break imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic, the IAU has relaunched the [Institutional Site Visits programme](#). The purpose of this programme is to create opportunities for exchange among Members while meeting at a university with an advanced approach to using digital innovations to improve higher education. Members are invited to participate in these site visits to learn from experiences at the host university and to connect with peers from around the world. The programme aims to foster sharing of knowledge and experience among Members and to allow participants to acquire new insights on how to leverage the digital transformation in higher education.

The next visit will take place on 3-4 April 2024 at Utrecht





IDOCOS partner meeting in Stockholm, Sweden.

foster debate and dialogue around the potential opportunities and adverse effects of AI in higher education by bringing together voices from all regions of the world to inform policy-making, raise awareness of the risks as well as generate mutual understanding of potential benefits and obstacles in different parts of the world.

### Innovative Doctoral Course for Sustainability (IDOCOS)

The IAU concluded the 2 year IDOCOS project which was implemented in partnership with KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Sweden, the University of Bergen, Norway, and Nordic Insight. The [IDOCOS project](#) combines an innovative approach to

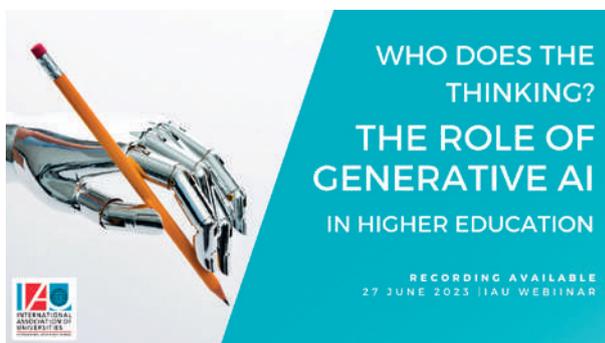
co-creation and sharing with relevant, existing building blocks. The project has the following objectives:

1. Fostering co-creation and sharing of digitalised courses and open learning materials prepared for quality online, flexible, and blended teaching and learning.
2. Adopting a scalable and robust methodology for co-creation and sharing of digitalised courses.
3. Promoting access to shared courses and open learning materials for teaching and learning.
4. Building competencies for digital transformation.

A doctoral course on Digital Transformation is proposed to PhD students from around the world, and a Handbook on Co-creation and Sharing is also available online on the dedicated portal: [www.idocos.eu](http://www.idocos.eu)

University in the Netherlands and will focus on their experience implementing the principles of Open Science.

### Impact of Generative AI in Higher Education



Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) created a significant buzz when OpenAI launched the first version of ChatGPT in November 2022. In only two months, it reached 100 million monthly active users, demonstrating the rapid uptake of the tool. As part of the global IAU webinar series on the Future of Higher Education, the IAU devoted a session to this topic which was framed by the question *Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI): Who does the thinking?* The session brought together experts to discuss the impact that generative AI may have or has on higher education. The webinar session is available on the IAU Youtube page, and you may find an article presenting the main outcomes of the conversation in *IAU Horizons* volume 28.2.

At the IAU 2023 International Conference, a special breakfast session also affirmed the understanding of Generative AI as a paradigm shift in higher education. The IAU will continue to

## 4) Advocacy

Throughout the year, the IAU has participated in several conferences and webinars to present on digital transformation in higher education and current transformations. Beyond presenting the data from the monitoring projects, it is also an opportunity to advocate for the principles and values outlined in the IAU Policy Statement.



### ➔ Priorities / Digital transformation

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

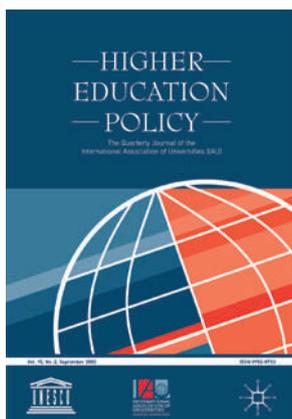
IAU Digital Transformations:

<https://www.iau-aiu.net/technology>

## KNOWLEDGE HUB

### News and Publications

#### Higher Education Policy Journal



The premier research publication of the Association is the quarterly academic journal [Higher Education Policy \(HEP\)](#). This journal showcases original analyses encompassing theoretical, empirical, and practice-based research. Its comprehensive coverage spans from detailed case studies of developments in individual institutions to a broader examination of policy-making at the system, national, and

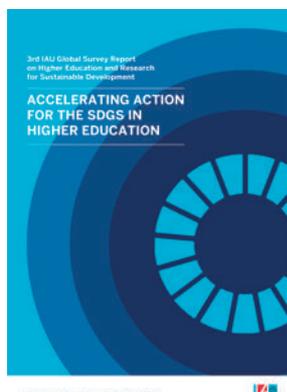
regional levels. HEP provides an academic and comparative perspective on various topics within higher education, featuring thematic issues curated by guest editors. Four editions ([35.4](#), [36.1](#), [36.2](#), and [36.3](#)) were published in the 2022-2023 financial year.

#### IAU Horizons



Published twice a year, [IAU Horizons](#) features the Association's activities, upcoming events, strategic priorities, Membership information, and IAU publications. Each issue also sheds light on a special 'In Focus' topic, providing perspectives from authors from around the world. Vol. 27, no. 2 focused on: *Relevance and Value of Universities to Future Society*, and Vol. 28, no.1 was dedicated to the topic *The Future of Internationalization in a Changing World*.

#### Third edition of the IAU Global Survey on Higher Education and Research for Sustainable Development



In 2022, the IAU conducted the [Third Global Survey on HESD](#) to Monitor trends and develop and share expertise on the Sustainable Development Goals. The Association launched the Survey Report, aptly named Accelerating Action for the SDGs, during a webinar on 31 January 2023. The results indicate that higher education and partnerships play a crucial role in tackling the

global challenges outlined in the UN Agenda 2030 and in creating a more sustainable future collectively. Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) have a distinctive opportunity to promote involvement with sustainable development (SD). Explore the survey report to learn more about the ways in which HEIs around the world are engaging with the SDGs and sustainable development more broadly.

#### Digitalisation of Administrative Services in Universities

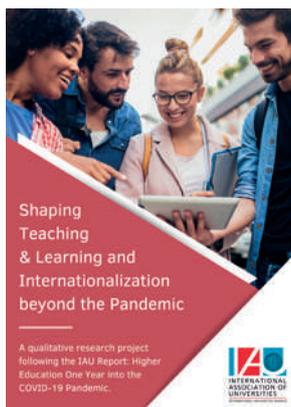


The process of digitalization of Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) has the main purpose to improve their organisational, administrative, and didactic power through the exploitation of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT). It is fundamental to monitor how the digital and technological development of HEIs' primary and administrative services have

evolved during these recent years of the Covid-19 emergency. A collaborative research group formed between the IAU and the Politecnico di Milano (PoliMi), and in April 2023, the group was proud to publish a global assessment on the [state of digital transformation in higher education administrative services](#).

#### Shaping Teaching & Learning and Internationalization beyond the Pandemic

The first and second IAU Global Surveys on the Covid-19 Pandemic identified significant interruptions to both Teaching & Learning (T&L) and internationalization activities. The innovative responses from Higher Education Institutions



(HEIs) around the world noted in the Global Survey reports generated interest in investigating the particular reasons behind these changes. This qualitative research project focusing on specific aspects of [transformations in T&L and internationalization](#) was developed as a result.

## Newsletter

Published ten times a year, the [IAU Newsletter](#) keeps Members and partners updated on initiatives and opportunities for engagement in the work of the Association. It furthermore highlights Members' news and global learning opportunities. Members are invited to share the Newsletter internally and in their networks as appropriate.

Learn more and sign up for the newsletter:

[www.IAU-AIU.net/IAU-Newsletter](http://www.IAU-AIU.net/IAU-Newsletter)

## IAU Cluster on HESD Activity Report

Every year, the IAU Cluster on HESD releases an Activity Report which details the work of the Cluster, presents goals for the coming year, and gives recommendations for good practices and initiatives. The [2023 Cluster Activity Report](#) was released in September 2023, and it highlights the work of each of the Cluster leads and their satellites.



### Publications

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

IAU Publications: <https://www.iau-aiu.net/Publications>

## Member News

The IAU is proud to share the news and accomplishments of our Members and partners with our diverse network of higher education stakeholders. Members benefit from the opportunity to share their updates on both the IAU website and in our monthly newsletter. They are moreover able to advertise their events in the IAU Global Calendar and showcase their initiatives on specialized IAU global portals.

## IAU in the News

Over the past year, the IAU has been pleased to have been featured in a number of press outlets and news stories. Most prominently featured have been the IAU's research on HESD and Internationalization, as well as IAU global events. University World News, with whom the IAU partners for their SDGs Hub, has featured the IAU in many of their articles throughout the past year.

## Global Portal on HESD



The [IAU HESD Global Portal](#) is a tool developed by the IAU for its Members, partners and the general public. It provides access to university actions and more initiatives developed around the world to promote sustainability and contribute to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). First created in 2012 and launched at the IAU 14<sup>th</sup> General Conference in Puerto Rico, the IAU HESD Portal has come a long way. It constantly improves and integrates content submitted by IAU Members and partners and collected via desk-based research. Following the 2015 adoption of the SDGs, these UN Goals were integrated into the site and search function. The IAU HESD Cluster, which this year celebrated its 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary, is featured on a special Cluster page on the portal. 2023 marked the relaunch of the Portal to include new functionalities and an improved layout.



### Global Portal on HESD

Contact: [iau3@iau-aiu.net](mailto:iau3@iau-aiu.net)

Portal: <https://www.iau-hesd.net/>

# World Higher Education Database (WHED)



In collaboration with:



The IAU has been collecting and publishing data on higher education systems and institutions around the world since its inception in 1950. This data is currently published via the [World Higher Education Database \(WHED\)](#). The portal is freely available to all and provides information on the education systems of 196 countries and territories as well as on 21,266 institutions.

Region	Percentage of HEIs worldwide
Africa	8%
Asia	38%
Europe	19%
Latin America and the Caribbean	13%
North America	21%
Oceania	1%

As the IAU looks to make historical WHED data publicly accessible, a survey was carried out with the ENIC-NARIC network, one of the Association's major partners and stakeholders, to assess use of the WHED data. Over 90% of national competent bodies found the WHED data vital for their work in the field of recognition, and an overwhelming majority indicated that an online archive would be extremely useful. Given the WHED's role in the world of credential recognition, Andreas Corcoran spoke at the ENIC-NARIC annual meeting in Stockholm in 2023 and represented the IAU on the Administrative Board of ETER and ASEM Expert Group on Recognition and Balanced Mobility.

The IAU continued to provide WHED extractions to various partners from both the non-profit and private sectors. The data also continues to serve research purposes - notable research publications based on data from the WHED are the [US President's 2023 Economic Report](#) and the [World Health Organisation Observatory's Worldwide Status of Higher Education Institutions Offering Disciplines Related to Research for Health in 2023](#).

The WHED portal continued to include a unique identifier (the **Global WHED ID**) for each institution listed. These identifiers are increasingly integrated into internal information systems. The Global WHED ID has become a vital tool in international higher education surveying and has been used by various IAU partners and HE stakeholders.



## Country Update : USA

During the latest reporting period, the International Association of Universities (IAU) concluded a comprehensive round of updates for higher education institutions (HEIs) in Latin America, the Caribbean, and the United States, marking significant milestones in ensuring the accuracy and relevance of the World Higher Education Database (WHED).

The meticulous updating process extended to the United States, where the WHED team embarked on a major undertaking to verify and update information for all 2568 institutions in the country listed in the database. This involved rigorous checks of multiple accreditor websites and the collection of detailed data on the extensive array of degree programs offered within each institution. The outcome of this effort provided valuable insights into the US higher education sector, revealing a landscape characterized by 768 public HEIs and 1800 private HEIs, with each institution meeting stringent criteria, including offering at least a four-year Bachelor's degree and having graduated at least three cohorts of students.

Delving deeper into the dynamics of higher education in the United States, the latest WHED update unveiled a notable reliance on private funding, with approximately 70% of institutions depending on private sources for financial support. This underscores the diverse funding models and educational structures prevalent across the country, encompassing a spectrum from private research universities and liberal arts colleges to diverse public institutions.

Despite strides towards gender equality, leadership in US higher education remains largely male-dominated, with 68% of institutional heads being men. This persistent gender disparity underscores ongoing challenges related to implicit bias, mentorship gaps, and systemic barriers that hinder the advancement of non-male individuals into top leadership roles within academia.

Furthermore, an analysis of program offerings across US HEIs revealed a concentration in fields such as Business Administration, Nursing, Psychology, Computer Science, and Management. These popular programs reflect evolving trends in academic and professional preferences among students and underscore the diverse educational opportunities available within the US higher education landscape.

This latest WHED country update not only serves as a comprehensive repository of information but also provides valuable insights into the evolving dynamics and challenges within the US higher education sector, facilitating informed decision-making and fostering international collaboration and exchange in the field of higher education.

# IAU in numbers

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We are pleased to share with you some of the IAU's major achievements in numbers for the academic year 2022-2023. The IAU continually enhances engagement with Members, strengthens partnerships, and develops meaningful new initiatives for the benefit of the global higher education community.

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

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**60+ invitations to speak** at events

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**100+ speakers** from around the world at IAU events

---

**130+ countries** represented at IAU Events

---

**2.4 Million searches** on HEIs on the WHED

---

**1.02 Million page views** on the IAU website

---

**21000 mailing-list subscribers**

---

**9400+ followers** on LinkedIn

---

**8600+ followers** on X

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Thank you for supporting IAU's vision and mission.

# IAU Webinar Series on the Future of Higher Education

Throughout the past year, the IAU continued its [Webinar Series: The Future of Higher Education](#). This webinar series, first developed in 2020, has grown to include over 70 webinars on topics ranging from the role of generative AI in higher education to growing mental health resilience through community building in universities.

This year, the Association produced 10 webinars which welcomed 45 speakers from around the world. The IAU extends thanks to its many partners for the collaborative webinars produced this year: the Asia Europe Foundation (ASEF), the Boston College Center for International Higher Education, CRUE, the European Women Rector's Association (EWORA),

## Discover the latest webinars:

### **Launch of the IAU Global Survey Report on Higher Education and Research for Sustainable Development: Accelerating Action for the SDGs in Higher Education**

At this launch event, the IAU presented the 3<sup>rd</sup> IAU global survey report on higher education and research for sustainable development and discussed key findings from the survey, including how universities engage with sustainable development and how to develop a whole-institution approach to the SDGs.

### **Shaping Teaching & Learning and Internationalization beyond the Pandemic**

In this webinar, the IAU presented the qualitative research project conducted as follow-up to the 2<sup>nd</sup> *Global Survey on the Impact of the Pandemic on Higher Education*. Four universities from different regions of the world shared the major changes and developments in teaching & learning or internationalization, starting from the experience that took place during the pandemic.

### **Higher Education & ESD Webinar: Taking a Transdisciplinary Approach to Teaching Based on SDG 4 and ESD at Universities**

This webinar, produced in collaboration with ESD-Net 2030, looked at HEIs and their teaching practices for ESD. Higher Education Institutions educate the citizens of today and the leaders of tomorrow; they are important actors at the local level; and, they inform policy nationally and globally. This webinar discussed teaching ESD through a transdisciplinary approach and whole-institution approaches to (E)SD.

### **Higher Education, Gender and Equity: Making SDG 5 Part of Universities' Strategy and Activities**

In honour of International Women's Day 2023, the IAU and EWORA hosted this webinar to discuss how universities can be more diverse, equitable, and inclusive across their activities, in particular when working with local communities.

### **Higher Education Funding: What is a Well-Financed Higher Education System?**

This webinar explored the scientific, economic, political and social principles that inform or should inform HE financing. Speakers considered which driving forces shape higher education funding policy, the tensions between funding mechanisms and academic freedom, autonomy, and governance, and how we can strengthen public trust and maximise universities' intrinsic educational purpose.

the Global Water Partnership (GWP), Magna Charta University, the Monitoring and Evaluating Climate Communication and Education Project (MECCE), the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN), Shanghai Open University, the Open University of Catalonia (UOC), UNESCO ESD-Net 20230, and the UNESCO Institute for LifeLong Learning. IAU webinars are available on demand on the [IAU Youtube Channel](#) and may be used internally to trigger informed conversations.

### Who Does the Thinking: The Role of Generative AI in Higher Education

Generative AI is characterised by its capacity to generate human-like content based on deep learning models in response to prompts. There is a wealth of opinions about how this will impact higher education spanning from the need to limit the use in the protection of higher education to embracing the tool as a means to improve higher education. In this webinar, speakers shared their views and discussed how Generative AI may transform higher education.

### University Community Engagement and Internationalization

Higher education institutions are increasingly focused on responding to global forces, while simultaneously serving the local communities that sustain them. This webinar explored the relationship between university community engagement and internationalization, with examples from Africa, Europe and Latin America.

### IAU Horizons Launch: the Future of Internationalization in a Changing World

As the launch event for IAU Horizons vol. 28.1, this webinar invited select authors to consider how internationalization is evolving in such a constantly changing context. Speakers discussed the future of internationalization from different perspectives and referred to the different missions of higher education: teaching and learning, research and community/societal engagement.

### Community and Partnership Based Approaches to Capacity Building in the Water Sector

At the occasion of the review of SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation at the 2023 High-Level Political Forum, the IAU invited experts from the academic and professional sector to address the question: How do we know what we know about water? Working with local communities and forming partnerships at the global level for capacity building and training/education was at the heart of the discussion with experts from universities, government, and civil society.

### Lifelong Learning: an Imperative for Higher Education

The IAU was pleased to collaborate with the UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning (UIL) and Shanghai Open University (SOU) to host this webinar to launch two publications on the vital role of higher education institutions in lifelong learning: "Lifelong learning: an Imperative for Higher Education," and "International Trends of Lifelong Learning in Higher Education."



Learn more about the series and discover past sessions:

<https://iau-aiu.net/IAU-Webinar-Series-on-the-Future-of-Higher-Education-929>

# MEMBERSHIP

## 617 Members on 30 September 2023

Membership is at the heart of the IAU's mission. The Association is committed to engaging with Members to foster strong higher education systems and institutions around the world.

With Members in over 130 countries, the IAU is the most globally representative association of higher education institutions and their associations.

Members benefit from various opportunities, such as engaging with a global network of universities, researchers, and leaders; getting advanced access to IAU knowledge productions; and learning from tailor-made advisory services.

## Customer Relationship Management (CRM)

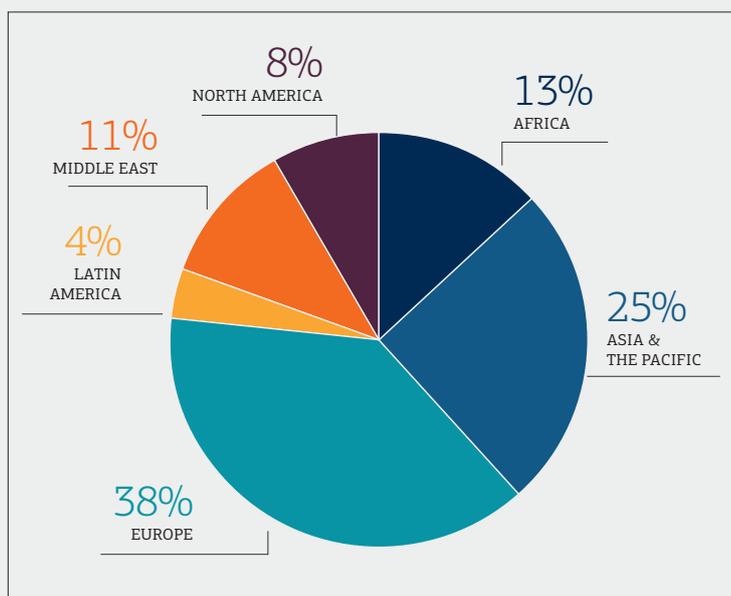
This year the IAU developed a new Customer Relationship Management (CRM) to organise its day-to-day operations, better engage with its Members, and further increase outreach to the wider higher education community. Data flows from the World Higher Education Database (WHED) into the CRM, and internal IAU data management has thus become more centralised and consistent across IAU databases.

➔ Information on Membership Fees and on How to Apply is available online: <https://iau-aiu.net/Join-IAU>

### Membership Categories and Numbers

The following charts present the breakdown of IAU Membership by types of Members and geographic regions for the period of 1 October 2022 to 30 September 2023.

**Figure 1** – Geographical distribution of IAU Members Institutions (as of 30 September 2023)

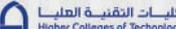


**Table 1** – Number of members per category

Member Type	Amount 2023 (as of 30 Sept)
INSTITUTIONS	548
ORGANISATIONS	29
AFFILIATES	20
ASSOCIATES	20
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>617</b>

# New Members

## Institutions

University of Mostar Bosnia and Herzegovina		Politehnica University of Bucharest Roumanie	
Huazhong University of Science and Technology China		Abrar University Somalia	
Fundación Universitaria del Área Andina Colombia		Capital University of Somalia Somalia	
Darmstadt University of Applied Sciences Germany		Himilo University Somalia	
Anant National University India		Nile University of Science and Technology Somalia	
CMR University India		University of Pretoria South Africa	
Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences Iran		Cyprus Health and social Sciences University Türkiye	
American University of Kurdistan Iraq		İstinye University Türkiye	
Cihan University-Erbil Iraq		Dnipropetrovsk State University of Internal Affairs Ukraine	
Dublin City University Ireland		Lesya Ukrainka Volyn National University Ukraine	
Trinity College Dublin, University of Dublin Ireland		Higher Colleges of Technology UAE	
Kansai University Japon		The New School USA	
Dongseo University Republic of Korea		Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis USA	
Antonine University Lebanon			
Autonomous Metropolitan University Mexico			
National Polytechnic Institute Mexico			
Graduate University of Mongolia Mongolia			
Iscte-University Institute of Lisbon Portugal			
Portugalense Infante D. Henrique University Portugal			

## Organisations

Federation for European Education France	
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The IAU is also very pleased to count on the invaluable support of 7 Senior Fellows who inform the priority area work of the IAU.

# FINANCIAL REPORT

This Financial Report presents the figures for the IAU financial years 2022 (1 October 2021 to 30 September 2022) and 2023 (from 1 October 2022 to 30 September 2023).

INCOME (in K Euro)	2022	2023
Membership fees	1 088	1268
Programmes and activities	74	57
Knowledge hub, including reference publications	76	108
International Conferences	0	213
Other income	112	64
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>1396</b>	<b>1710</b>
EXPENDITURE (in K Euro)	2022	2023
Programme and activities	36	13
Knowledge hub, including reference publications	71	100
International Conferences	0	187
Administrative Board and Executive Committee Meetings	1	49
Administrative and office costs	240	169
Staff cost (salaries, social charges, interns)	1045	1090
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>1393</b>	<b>1608</b>
<b>IAU Annual Financial Result</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>102</b>

## Explanatory notes:

### INCOME

The 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. We thank all our Members and partners for supporting our work also financially.

### SPECIAL MEASURES

In light of the geopolitical situations impacting higher education around the world, Membership fees for 2022-2023 had to be adjusted at times or waived when the situation locally or nationally would justify this. We thank all Members for making this possible and for ensuring that the Association remains inclusive, supportive of those in need, and globally representative.

## SPONSORSHIP/DONATIONS OPPORTUNITIES

The International Association of Universities (IAU) is convinced that higher education is a significant force of transformation, human development and peace. It advocates for collaborative, multi-dimensional, equitable and fair cooperation among HEIs and stakeholders across the world, with a focus on sustainability and an increase in quality for the good of humanity. The world is facing a variety of challenges – health and environmental hazards, economic uncertainty, international insecurity, and disruptive new technologies, to name a few. It is through higher education that future leaders, experts, and change makers become empowered to overcome these challenges - it is part of the IAU's mission to maximise opportunities to do so.

If you wish to contribute to one of the funds available online through the "Donate" function at the top of the website, please specify in the 'comment box' while making your payment. Any contributions that are submitted without specification will go towards supporting the IAU General Fund.

Thank you for supporting IAU's wide range of programmes and activities in the interest of higher education.

# PARTNERSHIPS

Beyond its institutional and organisational Membership, the IAU collaborates with a wide range of partners at both governmental and non-governmental levels. We are grateful to all our partners for their continued collaboration. The [IAU webpage on partnerships](#) provides brief insights into the projects in which the IAU engages with these partners.

## INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS



## INTERNATIONAL AND NATIONAL PARTNERS



# SECRETARIAT

The offices of the International Association of Universities are housed at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris, France. Positions are reflective of the period of 1 October 2022 to 30 September 2023:



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



**Andreas Corcoran**  
Deputy Secretary General



**Saholi Andriambololo-Nivo**  
WHED Data Officer



**Margaret Harris**  
Communications and Media Officer



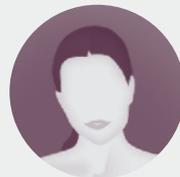
**Jessica Huang**  
Assistant, Administration and Membership



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



**Giorgio Marinoni**  
Manager, HE and Internationalization Policy and Projects



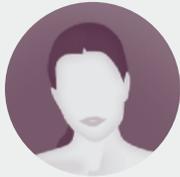
**Angella Nino**  
Manager, Finances and Administration



**Nicholas Poulton**  
WHED Operations Coordinator



**Samuel Pousson**  
WHED Data Officer



**Georgeta Sadlak**  
Manager, Information Systems



**Carine Sébast**  
Manager, Reference Publications



**Isabel Toman**  
Programme Officer, Sustainable Development

## INTERNS



**Sahida Amadou Djibo**  
World Higher Education Database, Cornell University



**Ava Booker**  
Sustainable Development, Sciences Po Paris, France



**Klaudia Brahimaj**  
Sustainable Development, Université Paris-Est Créteil



**Siro Pina Cardona**  
Internationalization, Tampere University



**Mehuli Sarkar**  
Higher Education Events and Projects, Sciences Po Paris



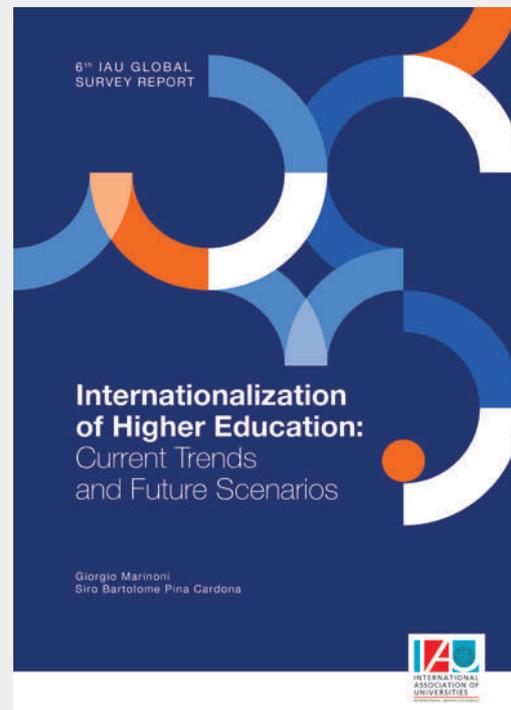
**Joshua Suh**  
Sustainable Development, Duke University

The IAU welcomes student interns to work with the IAU Secretariat for 2-6 month periods on specific projects.

“ The IAU 6<sup>th</sup> Global Survey on HE Internationalization represents a significant achievement at a time where the world and the notion of internationalization are increasingly fragmented. The report makes evident the contrasts and similarities across regions and therefore constitutes a significant instrument for university leaders to situate their own practices, approaches and assumptions about internationalization in a global context. ”

**Gerado Blanco**

Academic Director, Center for International Higher Education, Boston College



**IAU – INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITIES / INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITIES BUREAU.** Servicing its institutional and organizational members and beyond, IAU provides a forum for building a worldwide higher education community, promotes exchange of information, experience and ideas, contributes, through research, publication and advocacy to higher education policy debate.

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SAVE THE DATES  
FROM DOHA TO TOKYO



**IAU** 2024  
INTERNATIONAL  
CONFERENCE

22-24 November  
Tokyo, Japan

Hosted by SOPHIA UNIVERSITY



**上智大学**  
SOPHIA UNIVERSITY

