



The UIA at a glance

Documenting international co-operation

Since its foundation in 1907, the Union of International Associations (UIA) has been documenting the nature and evolution of international civil society.

Today, the UIA is the oldest, largest and most comprehensive source of information on global civil society and a unique repository for current and historical data on the work of international associations.

Besides being a non-profit, independent research institute, the UIA provides a platform for global non-governmental cooperation, collaborating with, providing services to, and promoting international associations. By documenting the work of International Nongovernmental Organizations and Intergovernmental Organizations and reflecting the collective views of international bodies, the UIA also promotes public awareness of their activities. Making civil society visible on a global stage—that is the main purpose of the UIA.

Serving global civil society

By providing reliable and comprehensive information on global civil society actors, the UIA pursues the following major objectives:

- Facilitate the development and efficiency of non-governmental networks and disseminate information on international bodies, their interrelationships, their meetings, and the problems and strategies with which they are concerned.
- Experiment with meaningful and action-oriented ways of presenting such information to enable these initiatives to develop and reinforce each other creatively.
- Act as a catalyst for the emergence of new forms of associative activity and international co-operation.
- Promote research on the legal, administrative and other problems common to international associations.
- Contribute to a universal order based on principles of human dignity, solidarity of peoples and freedom of association and communication.



More than 100 years of service

The UIA was founded in 1907 by Nobel Peace Prize winner Henri La Fontaine, and father of information science Paul Otlet, in order to support the emerging transnational associations, known today as civil society. The UIA was to provide services, including management of relations between international associations, study of questions of common interest, creation of new organizations, international instruction, management of publications and documentation, among others. Notable UIA lobbying successes include: the 1919 Belgian law providing special legal facilities for international associations, contributing to the establishment of the League of Nations, and to the founding of the International University.

Following World War II, the UIA resumed its activities in 1948, no longer as a federation of international associations, but as a research centre for documentation, study, service, and the promotion of closer relations between international associations. To this day, the UIA carries out the sophisticated and visionary concepts of its founders.

The UIA Global Civil Society Database

The UIA offers a wide range of products and services to international associations, the academic world and the general public. The UIA's most important projects are:

International Congress Calendar

The International Congress Calendar comprises meetings and events organized or sponsored by intergovernmental (IGOs) and international non-governmental organizations (INGOs) working worldwide. Meetings from 1851 to 2036 are covered, over 3,500 of which are future meetings. Information on all meetings is collated by an editorial staff and presented in a standardized format to facilitate comparison and statistical analysis. The meetings data compiled by the UIA are analyzed in great detail in its Annual International Meetings Statistics Report.

Yearbook of International Organizations

The Yearbook of International Organizations includes detailed information on over 41,000 active and 32,000 dormant international organizations from 300 countries and territories. Some 1,200 new organizations are added each year.

Expertly edited by specialized staff, the Yearbook is a trusted tool for studies and research in all areas of civil society activities, including Political Science, Law, International Studies, International Relations, Sociology, Demography and Peace Studies. It is available both online and in print.

Encyclopedia of World Problems and Human Potential

The Encyclopedia of World Problems and Human Potential is a unique, experimental research work published as a searchable online platform with profiles of world problems, action strategies, and human values that are interlinked in novel and innovative ways. By concentrating on the links and relationships of problem cycles and thus sustainable strategy cycles, the Encyclopedia is uniquely positioned to bring focus to the complex and expansive sphere of global issues and their interconnected nature and offer a radically different perspective to associations, policy-makers, social researchers and those concerned with development strategy.

UIA Associations Round Tables

The UIA Association Round Tables promote, facilitate and enable expanded dynamism in the work of international associations. In each of their varied and attractive locations, the Round Tables focus on structured training, educational and networking opportunities. They are famous for opening up the mind and the senses to local cultural events; they invariably provide outstanding food and beverage experiences.

The Round Tables bring association participants into friendly and productive contact with Convention Bureaux and with leaders of significant international institutions.

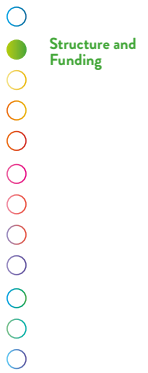
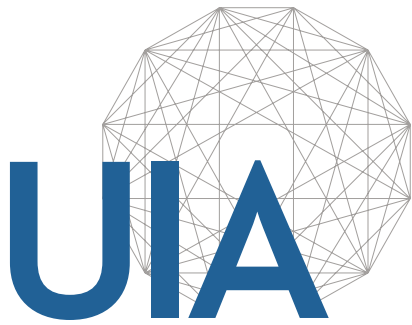


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With us,
it is all about
participation



Wholly independent and self-funded, the UIA is a non-profit institute, whose services are openly available, for the benefit of all, and for general participation.

The UIA's organizational structure mirrors what we strive for: democracy and participation. The UIA consists of, and is shaped by, its Active Members – individuals who wish to actively contribute to the development of a global civil society. They are admitted without distinction of nationality, race, sex or creed, and irrespective of adherence to ideological, political or professional groups, from among persons who share an interest in the UIA's aims.

Associate Membership is open to organizations, foundations, institutions, business firms and corporate bodies in general who wish to give moral and practical support to the UIA, and to collaborate effectively with it.

The UIA's governing body is the General Assembly, comprising all Active Members; its sessions are held every year. Daily business is carried out by the UIA's management, supervised by a Council and Bureau. The Council is elected by the General Assembly from the Active Members, with a minimum number of 15 and a maximum of 21. From among the Council Members, the Bureau is elected, composed of the President, three Vice-Presidents, the Treasurer-General and the Secretary-General.

The UIA is headquartered in Belgium, where it is officially registered as an international not-for-profit association with a scientific aim.

The UIA is mainly funded by:

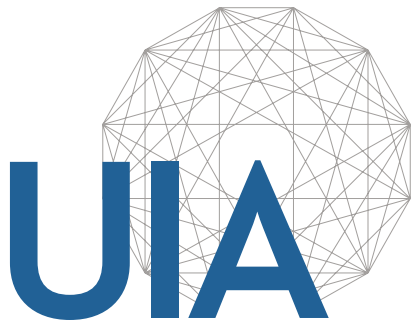
- Subscriptions from Associate Members
- Reimbursements for research, study and consultation contracts
- Grants from international organizations and public or private authorities
- Generous donations from benefactors and members of the general public
- Proceeds from sales of information and data licensing
- Proceeds from services rendered

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The largest data
repository
on international
organizations



The UIA's database is the world's most comprehensive source of information on international associations, both active and historical, and it is being continuously expanded.

For over 100 years, the UIA has been a leading provider of reliable information on global civil society. Today, the UIA maintains the most comprehensive source of information on international associations, their activities and concerns, and their meetings activities: the Global Civil Society Database. This unique database is a trusted tool for a wide range of companies within the meetings industry – professional congress organizers, convention centres, tourism bureaus, hotels, airlines – as well as consulting companies, publishers, research institutes, university departments, libraries, international associations, government bodies and intergovernmental organizations. All data are expertly edited by a specialized staff and presented in a standardized format to facilitate comparison of different organizations.

Data retrieved from the Global Civil Society Database have been used successfully for studies and research in many branches of civil society activities, including Political Science, Law, International Studies, International Relations, Sociology, Demography and Peace Studies. Besides making the Global Civil Society Database available in various publications, both in print and online, the UIA also provides customized data extractions according to individual needs. Just get in touch with us!

Projects in the Global Civil Society Database

Yearbook of International Organizations

The Yearbook includes detailed information on over 41,000 active and 32,000 dormant international organizations from 300 countries and territories. Some 1,200 new organizations are added each year.

International Congress Calendar

The Calendar includes over 500,000 meetings and events organized or sponsored by associations from 1851 to 2036. At least 11,000 new events are added annually.

Encyclopedia of World Problems and Human Potential

The Encyclopedia presents information on societal problems and the challenges they pose to concept formation, values and development strategies. The Encyclopedia focuses on the relationships between problems through its inclusion of feedback loops.

International Meetings Statistics Report

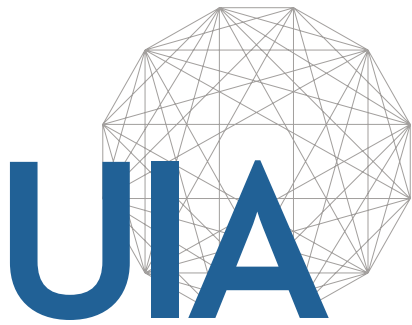
The annual Statistics Report delivers statistics on the international meetings that have taken place worldwide in the preceding year. This work is based on ongoing research and surveys undertaken by the UIA.

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Access to the world
of international
organizations



The UIA's Yearbook of International Organizations provides the authoritative overview of international organizations. It is continuously updated online and the print version is reprinted annually.

For over 100 years, the UIA has been a leading provider of reliable information on global civil society. Today, the UIA's Yearbook of International Organizations offers detailed information on more than 41,000 active international organizations from 300 countries and territories. There is no other publication that provides such a comprehensive overview of institutions and associations currently serving global civil society, including intergovernmental and international non-governmental organizations. And the Yearbook is being updated continuously, making it an indispensable and up-to-date source of valuable data.

In addition, the UIA has initiated the Open Yearbook project, offering free open access to organizations' names, history and aims for all the profiles included in the full version. Subscribing grants unlimited access to the complete detailed profiles and use of all search functions, such as name, location, foundation year, subject matter, United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, membership, size, etc. Data can be exported for up to 500 search results in XLS, CSV or TXT formats. The online database is updated every six to eight weeks.

The UIA's Yearbook is an invaluable source of information on international organizations:

- More than 73,000 profiles of international IGOs and NGOs
- Over 41,000 organizations currently active
- 1,200 organizations added annually
- Available in print and online by short- and long-term subscriptions

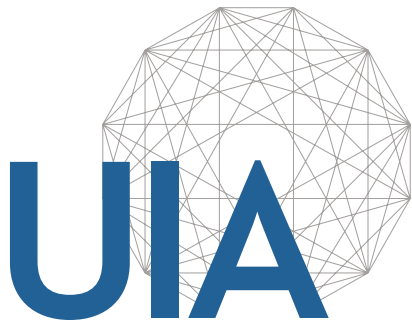
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UIA

Data on events
past, present
and future



The UIA's International Congress Calendar contains vital information for anyone wishing to gain crucial insight into past, current, and future association events.

For over 100 years, the UIA has been a leading provider of reliable information on global civil society. With its International Congress Calendar, the UIA informs you about the past, present and future events in the world of international organizations. Besides international meetings, it also covers national events with a large proportion of international participation.

Currently, the calendar includes around 572,000 events and meetings organized or sponsored by a wealth of associations working worldwide, covering the years from 1851 to 2040. Included are around 3,000 future events, thus helping you find the congresses and meetings best suited to your needs and purposes. For this reason, the International Congress Calendar is a trusted tool for a wide range of companies within the meetings industry as well as consulting companies, publishers, research institutes, university departments, libraries, international associations, government bodies and intergovernmental organizations (IGO)s.

In addition, the UIA has initiated the Open Calendar project, offering free open access to 6,000 current and future meetings and events with a limited search function. A subscription grants access to the full database of historical, current, and future events as well as full advanced search capabilities, such as event name, association name, meeting location, subject matter, and participant numbers. Data can be exported for up to 500 search results in XLS, CSV or TXT formats. The online database is updated every six to eight weeks.

The UIA's Congress Calendar provides insight into the world of association events:

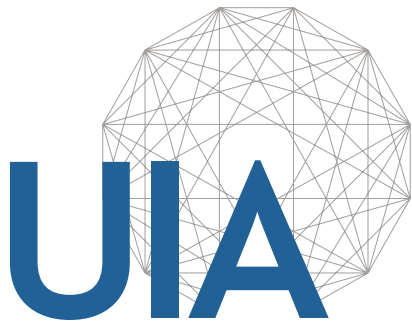
- Over 572,000 events and meetings of international IGOs and NGOs
- Over 3,000 future events
- 11,000 new events added annually
- Available with short- and long-term subscriptions
- Extensive hyperlinking to facilitate your search

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Gathering the facts on international meetings



The UIA's International Meetings Statistics Report is a comprehensive analysis of meetings held by international associations worldwide.

Since 1960 the UIA has produced a statistical report on meetings held worldwide by international associations in the preceding year. This annual International Meetings Statistics Report is based on continuous research and surveys undertaken by the UIA, supported by its database of over 500,000 meetings and events. The Statistics Report provides a most comprehensive overview of trends in international organizations' events and provides crucial answers to questions about meetings organized by international associations.

The Statistics Report lets readers find out which destinations have succeeded in attracting international association events both in the last year, and over a twenty-year period. Data listed include, among others: number of meetings per city and per country, with indication of their market share; top international meeting countries and cities per year; and trends in participant numbers and meeting dates.

The International Meetings Statistics Report is published annually in June when it is available to all UIA Associate Members. It goes on sale to the general public in September. If you want to support the UIA's ongoing research efforts, and be among the first to receive the results, consider becoming a UIA Associate Member. This will give you access to the UIA's statistics three months ahead of everyone else and grant you other exclusive benefits.

The UIA's International Meetings Statistics Report contains information on:

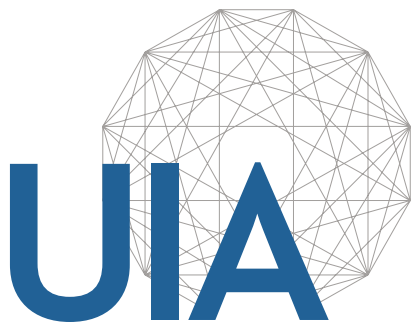
- Number of meetings per city and per country
- Top 100 rankings for the previous year
- Top 30 rankings over a twenty-year period
- Trends in participant numbers and meeting dates
- Trends in meeting size
- Trends in meeting duration
- Historical overviews

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What counts when organizing international meetings



The UIA's Survey on International Meeting Issues is indispensable if you want to find out which issues are of paramount importance to associations organizing meetings.

For over 100 years, the UIA has been a leading provider of reliable information on global civil society. With its periodic and large-scale Survey on International Meeting Issues, which was first conducted in 1985, the UIA explores and documents multiple aspects of meetings held by international organizations. Every two years, the UIA invites 25,000 international associations to participate in this Survey, making it the largest of its kind. If you intend to look into the meetings behaviour and opinions of all types of international associations representing civic, charitable, commercial, or industrial interests around the world, this survey provides you with both a true overview and the in-depth insights required.

By conducting the Survey on a regular basis, everyone involved in the process of organizing international meetings can obtain a sense of the changes that occurred over the years as well as realize the challenges in the current environment. Upon completion, the Survey is freely available to the public on the UIA's website.

Questions answered by the UIA's International Meetings Issues include:

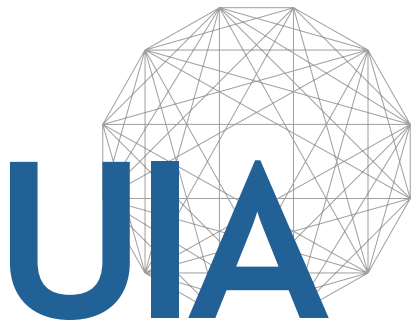
- How many associations organize major international meetings?
- How frequently are international meetings held?
- Who in the association organizes meetings?
- Which income sources cover the costs of meetings?
- How is the decision made for meeting destinations?
- How many associations have a bidding process?
- In which months are meetings mainly held?
- How long do meetings last?
- Where are meetings held?
- How many associations hold an exhibition in conjunction with their meetings?
- How many delegates attend?
- Which concerns do associations have for their future events?
- How many associations allow for virtual participation?
- How many associations work with a Convention Bureau?

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Shared problems,
shared values,
shared strategies



The Encyclopedia of World Problems and Human Potential offers a compelling perspective on the vast range of problems faced by global civil society.

The rapidly changing state of the world makes planning in the face of complex interconnected problems a formidable challenge. Our ability to conceive adequate solutions and strategies is often undermined by our lack of understanding of the nature of problems in their wider context. The Encyclopedia of World Problems and Human Potential offers a radically different perspective to associations, policy-makers, social researchers and those concerned with development strategy. By clarifying the ways in which problems reinforce and sustain each other, the Encyclopedia shifts the level of attention from isolated problems to problem cycles, and thus to sustainable strategy cycles. This allows for a more holistic understanding of the environment in which global problems and strategies are situated.

What is the Encyclopedia?

The Encyclopedia of World Problems and Human Potential is a unique, experimental research work. It is currently published as a searchable online platform with profiles of world problems, action strategies, and human values that are interlinked in novel and innovative ways. These connections are based on a range of relationships such as broader and narrower scope, aggravation, relatedness and more. By concentrating on these links and relationships, the Encyclopedia is uniquely positioned to bring focus to the complex and expansive sphere of global issues and their interconnected nature.

The initial content for the Encyclopedia was seeded from UIA's Yearbook of International Organizations. UIA's decades of collected data on the enormous variety of association life provided a broad initial perspective on the myriad problems of humanity. Recognizing that international associations are generally confronting *world problems* and developing *action strategies* based on particular *values*, the initial content was based on the descriptions, aims, titles and profiles of international associations.

Visit the UIA's Encyclopedia to gain free access to a wealth of information:

- The Encyclopedia is available as a free, open-source public resource.
- It contains profiles of some 56,000+ world problems, 31,000+ action strategies, 3,200+ Human Value profiles and more.
- You can visit the website and explore the content for free at encyclopedia.uia.org.

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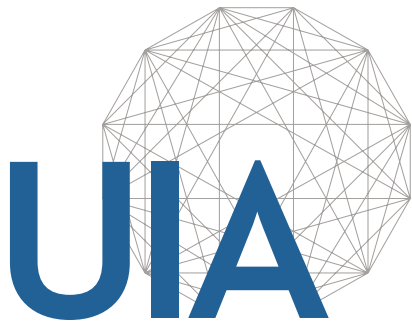
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Associations
Round Tables



Learn,
share,
connect



The UIA's annual Associations Round Tables provide associations with a unique platform to learn from each other and form tighter networks.

So far, more than 650 international associations have sent representatives to attend the UIA's annual Associations Round Tables, making it one of the most important occasions for organizations to meet, exchange ideas and network. And as the Round Table content is aimed to address issues faced by associations worldwide, regardless of their specific size or concern, it is a valuable source of information for improving the functioning of every organization. Especially for smaller associations, the Round Table has proven to be an invaluable source of information.

The program is organized into workshops and discussion groups in order for participants to exchange experience and knowledge. There are speakers who are all involved in running associations, and who share their expertise in meeting challenges in areas such as membership, communication, funding, and governance.

Thanks to its partners, UIA keeps registration fees low for association representatives, thus enabling delegates from all associations to attend. And from the feedback we have received on past events, we can honestly say that participants go home with new ideas, increased motivation, and names of people with whom they want to stay in touch.

The UIA's Round Tables cover topics such as:

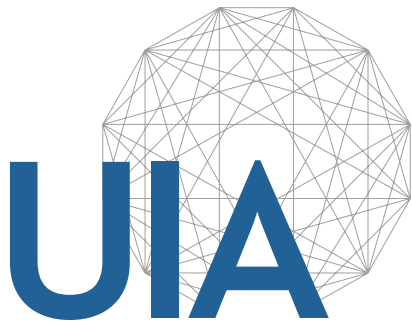
- Societal role
- Community creation
- Support from Convention Bureaus
- Available resources
- UN accreditation
- Governance
- Sustainability
- Progress measuring
- Project partnerships
- Communication
- Inclusion
- Increasing membership / Membership retention
- Statutes
- Taxation
- Organizing conferences
- Funding
- Staff retention
- The World as seen by Associations
- Associations' role in the world

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Research
for a
better world



The UIA's work contributes to a universal order based on principles of human dignity, solidarity of peoples and freedom of association and communication.

The Union of International Associations (UIA) is a non-profit, wholly independent research institute documenting the work of international organizations across all fields of human endeavor. Founded more than 100 years ago, the UIA today is the leading provider of information on international associations worldwide. The UIA's data are invaluable to both academic researchers with a focus on civil society, and non-governmental organizations seeking to expand their networks and gain valuable tools.

As a matter of principle, the UIA seeks to make the information collected as freely and widely available as possible. For instance, it offers large sections of its extensive UIA Global Civil Society Database to the public for free through its projects Open Yearbook, Open Calendar, the Survey on International Meeting Issues, and the Encyclopedia of World Problems and Human Potential. Besides, the UIA provides important education and stimulation to associations through its Associations Round Tables, helping especially organizations with limited budgets to learn, share, and connect.

The UIA's unique documentation efforts serve to:

- Facilitate the development and efficiency of nongovernmental networks in every field of human activity – especially with non-profit and voluntary associations
- Collect, research and disseminate information on international bodies, both governmental and nongovernmental, their interrelationships, and the problems and strategies for which they are concerned
- Experiment with meaningful and action-oriented ways of presenting such information to enable these initiatives to develop and reinforce each other creatively
- Act as a catalyst for new forms of associative activity and international co-operation
- Promote research on the legal, administrative and other problems common to international associations, especially in their contacts with governmental bodies
- Contribute to a universal order based on principles of human dignity, solidarity of peoples and freedom of association and communication

The work of the UIA would be impossible to achieve without donations.

For more than 100 years, the generous support of many outstanding individuals has enabled the UIA's dedicated research and the promotion of non-governmental organizations. We will open our doors and arms to responsible persons ready to become UIA's valued supporters.

Benefits are available for businesses engaging in a long-term partnership with the UIA, as well as for UIA Associate Members.

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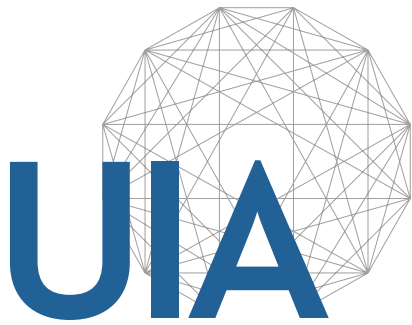
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Associate
Membership



Stronger
together



Joining the UIA's networking platform for international associations and the meetings industry grants exclusive benefits for your business.

To enhance collaboration with the business world, the UIA offers an Associate Membership to industry bodies. In return, the UIA provides Associate Members with quality, customized, up-to-date research data and exceptional opportunities to directly reach thousands of international associations. As an Associate Member you may gain the following advantages:

Apart from various membership categories, depending on the size of the business, you are also welcome to upgrade to a Premium Associate Membership. This includes an UIA Yearbook Online subscription, granting access to 41,000 currently active international organizations. Listed are, among other things, headquarter contact details, aims, staff, finance, activities, events, member countries, and more.

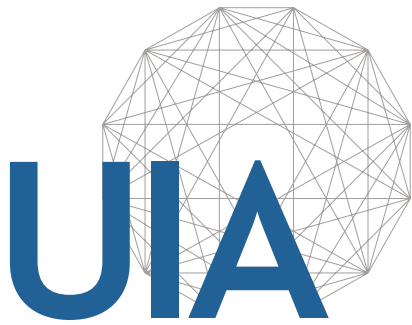
- Receive an early copy of the annual UIA International Meetings Statistics Report. This comprehensive overview of trends in international organizations' events lists, e.g., the number of meetings per city and per country, top international meeting countries and cities per year, trends in participant numbers and meeting dates.
- Have online access to the premium, professional version of the UIA International Congress Calendar.
- Share news and offers with over 25,000 international associations at discounted rates across a variety of platforms from the UIA's newsletter and mailings to the UIA's website.
- Have your own profile on the UIA's website.
- Request customized data extractions.
- Receive a free copy of the UIA e-newsletter World of Associations News.
- Be invited to the Associate Members' Annual Meeting.
- Be invited to the annual UIA Associations Round Tables in Europe and in Asia-Pacific.
- Participate in the UIA's training sessions.
- Receive professional tailored advice on how to attract international association business.
- Receive a 10% discount on all other UIA publications.

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Efficiently addressing
organizations across
the globe



Channel your company news and offers through the UIA's media to an audience of more than 25,000 organizations across the globe.

Reliable and trustworthy communication is the UIA's core competency, and as our marketing partner you may profit from our unique standing in the world of international associations. Through our various media outlets, you may directly address up to 25,000 international associations of your choice.

The UIA World of Associations Newsletter is a unique way of regularly reaching out to a global audience. Currently, this e-newsletter is forwarded to more than 25,000 international associations across the globe.

The UIA's annual digital Yearbook Associations mailing lets you send your message to up to 25,000 international associations of your choice. Printed content may be mailed directly to up to 15,000 international associations, using the annual postal UIA Yearbook Associations mailing. On its Yearbook mailings, the UIA consistently achieves response rates of over 35 percent!

Place your logo on the UIA's Associations' login webpage, seen by thousands of international associations accessing their profile in the Yearbook of International Organizations. You are sure to garner attention as your business would be one of only four which we would accept as a maximum. Or instead, have your banner appear to thousands of visitors on the UIA's free associations and events databases, Open Yearbook and Open Calendar, which list over 73,000 organization profiles and over 3,600 upcoming association meetings. Receive credit as an official sponsor of the UIA's Yearbook research.

Become an official sponsor of the annual UIA Associations Round Table:

- Be visible in the invitation sent to over 25,000 international associations
- Feature prominently in the official UIA Associations Round Table program book
- Share your promotional material with all participants
- Receive complimentary passes to attend the Round Table
- Receive a list of participants
- Enjoy high visibility due to limited number of sponsors

Discounts are available for businesses engaging in a long-term partnership with the UIA, as well as for UIA Associate Members.

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