IUAES

The first International Congress of the IUAES, the International Union of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences (then called ICAES) was held in London in 1934. Ever since, the IUAES has held five-yearly World Congresses alongside smaller (Inter-)Congresses all across the globe. These congresses have become forums for anthropologists, ethnologists and academics from cognate disciplines from all over the world. Indeed, a significant goal of the IUAES is to provide opportunities for collaboration and interaction between scholars, thereby enabling cross-fertilization between the many anthropologies that are practiced globally.

The IUAES was founded de facto in 1948 and established de jure in 1968. It emerged from important anthropology and ethnology organisations, including one which started in 1865. The goals of the post-World War II IUAES resonated with a search for a more peaceful and tolerant world than had prevailed during the War, a period that revealed a need to strengthen the social sciences, anthropology in particular. Since its beginnings, the IUAES’s main goal has been to broaden the vision and the concept of anthropological knowledge so that it would be inclusive of perspectives from all parts of the world. To this end, many notable scholars from diverse countries and regions have participated in the organisation’s most essential activities.

The IUAES Executive Committee, whose current President is Junji Koizumi, takes the leadership role of the organisation, while IUAES Commissions, which represent specific academic interests within the large and diverse field of anthropology, are the centre of the organisation’s activities. Some Commissions have their own websites and journals, and most maintain a record of convening stimulating panels at IUAES Congresses and other international conferences.

The IUAES is a member of the International Science Council (ISC) that comprises academies, unions and organisations, from across the world, in both social and natural sciences. The IUAES is also a member of the International Council for Philosophy and Human Sciences (CIPSH), a global organisation for the humanities and human sciences. Most importantly, in 2017, the IUAES and the WCAA (World Council of Anthropological Associations) together formed a bicameral organisation named the World Anthropological Union (WAU). The bicameral structure enables both unity and autonomy of the IUAES and WCAA chambers, allowing WAU’s leadership, drawn from the two chambers’ executive committees, to make decisions on important issues together and to collaborate as a powerful global organisation while ensuring each chamber to pursue its independent activities.

The IUAES takes its advocacy role seriously and, on many occasions when there has been a threat to scholars and to the discipline as a whole, the IUAES has issued written statements and sent letters of support to those in need. The various activities of IUAES, WCAA and WAU are disseminated to its members in a biannual Newsletter and through the news circulated via social media channels and by email.

IUAES social media channels:
IUAES web page: https://www.iuaes.org
https://www.facebook.com/IUAES-1525250224390454
https://twitter.com/IUAES_EC (hashtag #IUAES)