

16th

UIA Associations
ROUND TABLE
Europe 2022

24 – 25 November 2022
Postillion Convention Centre

Rotterdam, Netherlands

#UIA22EU



PROGRAMME



Welcome to Rotterdam – 24 & 25 November 2022

Rotterdam. Dynamic World City

Our city is known internationally as the ‘Gateway to Europe’ Whether it is our ever-changing skyline full of bold architecture, our port that is regarded as the smartest in the world or the ‘can do’ mentality of the Rotterdam people in all their diversity: Rotterdam is an entrepreneurial city with a distinct character, constantly evolving and always looking forward. A city of frontrunners with the courage and will to drive change, internationally renowned for our passion for innovation and unpolished charm.

Our city is also home to world-leading clusters in other economic sectors such as life sciences and health, maritime, energy and agrifood, among others. The city’s knowledge ecosystem includes Erasmus University, the Rotterdam School of Management, the Erasmus Centre for Innovation Management, as well as the world class Erasmus Medical Center in the midst of a Convergence with the Technical University of Delft, making it the largest institute within the Dutch Medical Delta.

All of this is complemented by state-of-the-art (meeting) venues, such as the Rotterdam Ahoy Convention Center, featuring the Netherlands’ largest auditorium seating 4,000 as well as De Doelen ICC, whose largest plenary can seat 1750 delegates, and Postillion Convention Centre at the World Trade Center, seating up to 1100 in the largest room. All venues feature multiple breakout rooms and exhibition space and are within walking distance of many of the more than 9,000 hotel rooms in the city.

Tip: Scan the QR Code to download the Rotterdam Fact Sheet!



Welcome to the 16th UIA Associations Round Table - Europe!

Message from the Secretary-General

We welcome you to Rotterdam for the 16th UIA Associations Round Table Europe – the Union of International Associations is delighted to provide the opportunity of meeting, learning and discussing and to share with all delegates lots of ideas and as well the experience of the wonderful city of Rotterdam.

For over a century the Union of International Associations (UIA) has been working to promote and facilitate the work of international associations. Since 2007, the annual UIA Associations Round Tables have given associations an opportunity to learn through networking and through practice.

As an independent research institute, the UIA is able to bring together people one wouldn’t meet anywhere else. Many of the invitees will never be found on any other list: finding and documenting associations is, after all, the UIA’s expertise. I am confident, you will benefit greatly from the opportunity to exchange ideas, and to engage in active discussions with the speakers and each other.

The participants and speakers are people involved in running associations – of all sorts. The diversity of international associations attending any given UIA Round Table is remarkable, yet each UIA Round Table confirms that we have more in common than our associations’ names might indicate. We share challenges and questions and concerns, exchanging ideas and engaging in active discussions with the speakers and each other. And this year, additionally, we share the experience of being in a pulsating, innovative city – Rotterdam.

For two days, the city of Rotterdam will be the stage for representatives from international associations – professional societies, service organizations, interest groups, and charities – to share, through workshops and discussion groups, their experiences in meeting challenges in communication issues, strategy, governance, finding partners for their goals and more. The UIA team is happy to finally meet – or see again – many of you face to face.

We at the UIA look forward to meeting the delegates, to the presentations by those with experience in association work and to the thought-provoking discussions they will introduce, and to the opportunities to network with our colleagues from other associations and other countries.

At the UIA we consider a Round Table a success if the participants go home with new ideas, with increased motivation, and with names of people with whom they want to stay in touch.

The 16th UIA Associations Round Table Europe 2022 is possible thanks to the generous support of our host Rotterdam Partners / Rotterdam Convention Bureau. And of our partners and sponsors. We thank them.

Sincerely,
Jacques de Mévius
Secretary-General of the UIA

Programme

Thursday 24 November

9.00

Registration opens

10.00 – 13.00

Optional tour to discover Rotterdam:

start of the tour at the Postillion Convention Centre

11.00 – 12.00

UIA Associate Members Meeting – for UIA Associate Members only

– Penn room 2

12.15 – 13.00

Lunch at the Markthal for participants of the morning tour

12.30 – 14.00

Lunch at the Postillion Convention Centre

14.00 – 15.30

Round Table session 1:

Opening keynote by Cyril Ritchie, President of UIA,

First Vice President of CoNGO:

“Politics, War, Peace, Associations...”

Followed by a panel of speakers and round table discussions

15.30 – 16.00

Coffee break

Programme

Thursday 24 November (continued)

16.00 – 18.15

Round Table session 2:

3 case studies followed by two rounds of 3 parallel workshops in break-out rooms:

Glen Hodgson, Founder & CEO, Free Trade Europa:

“Technology and Challenges for Think Tanks”

– Penn room 1

Ryan Brubaker, Web and Database Developer, UIA:

“Achieving goals, finding partners: UIA’s Global Civil Society Database”

– Penn room 2

Yash Gurbani and Cyrus Walther, International Association of Physics Students (IAPS):

“The future belongs to the young: What brings young members into international associations and unions?”

– Veder room

18.30 – 19.00

Optional tour of the Postillion Convention Centre

19.00

Dinner at the Postillion Convention Centre

Programme

Friday 25 November

9.00 - 10.45

Round Table session 3:

Three case studies followed by two rounds of 3 parallel workshops in break-out rooms:

Ivo Franschitz, Founder & Owner, ENITED Business Events:

"Becoming a SMART association"

- Penn room 1

Håkan Johansson, Professor, School of Social Work, Lund University:

"Civil Society Elites in Europe"

- Penn room 2

Catherine Kalamidas, Rotterdam Partners:

"The Dreamers & Doers: Rotterdam as a Living Lab for the Future of Events"

- Veder room

10.45 - 11.15

Coffee break

11.15 - 12.00

Second round of 3 parallel workshops

12.00 - 12.30

Round Table session 4:

Closing keynote by Lars Crama, Private Lead, Up!Rotterdam:

"It takes a village to raise a startup"

Programme

Friday 25 November (continued)

12.30

Lunch

14.00 - 18.00

Optional tour to discover Rotterdam:

start of the tour at the Postillion Convention Centre

Saturday 26 November

9.00 - 13.30

Optional tour to discover "Rotterdam's Resilient Future":

start of the tour at the Postillion Convention Centre

Presenters

Cyril Ritchie

President of UIA

Biography

- Union of International Associations: President since 2017 - Brussels
- Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations (CoNGO): President 2011-2018; First Vice President 2018-2025 - Geneva, New York, Vienna
- Council of Europe Expert Council on NGO Law: President 2008-2018; Honorary President from 2018 - Strasbourg
- World Future Council: Senior Policy Advisor since 2012 - Hamburg
- Environment Liaison Centre International (ELCI): Chair since 2000 - Nairobi
- Titular of the World Order of the Smile (since 1979) - Government of Poland
- International Civil Society Forum for Democracy (ICSFD, 2006): President - Doha
- World Civil Society Conference (WOCSOC, 1999): President - Montréal
- International Council of Voluntary Agencies: Executive Director 1964-1978 and 1990-1991 - Geneva



Presenters

Keynote: 'Politics, War, Peace, Associations...'

WOW, that's a plateful, even for a UIA Round Table.

Today's world seems ever more uncertain. What are the relationships that exist, don't exist, or should exist between, on the one hand, the year-round life and programmes of altruistic / professional / environmental and other on-the-ground Associations; and on the other hand the realities of politics, war and apparently-unattainable peace? Are Associations adequately structured - and funded - to be informed of and responsive to harsh 'real world' conditions and constraints? What two-way (or ten-way) communications mechanisms are needed to keep the association boat afloat on the choppy waters of fake news and/or shrinking civil space and/or political populism?

The Keynote will pose questions to which only individual Associations can respond, but will underline some cardinal principles of association ethics.



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Presenters

Lars Crama

Private Lead, Up!Rotterdam

Keynote: 'It takes a village to raise a startup'

Lars will share his first hand learnings from leading the public-private collaboration Up!. Launched in 2019, the program now supports over 1600 startups in scaling up their impact. In co-creation with a network of more than 60 partners, providing better access to talent, international markets, capital and networks. He looks forward to a conversation with UIA participants about building strong ecosystems.



Biography

Lars spent 15 years leading high growth Scale-up and Fortune 500 ventures across four continents. In 2015, he left traditional business to invest in networked organizations on the intersection of innovation and positive societal impact instead.

Since then, he has built an innovation advisory collective, an angel investor cooperative, a circular business incubator and a co-created startup festival. He also finds time for several non-executive roles, including the Supervisory Board of Rotterdam Partners.

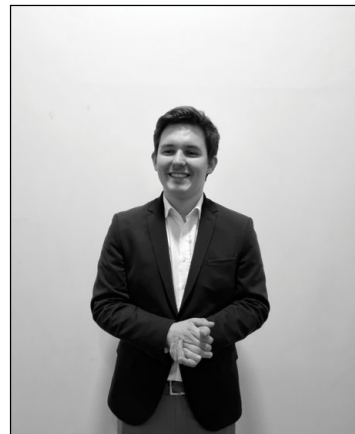
Presenters

Workshop: ‘The future belongs to the young: What brings young members into international associations and unions?’ with Yash Gurbani and Cyrus Walther

The youth is arguably the future of every association and union around the world and probably also fundamental for the growth and continuity of your association. But what moves the youth? What is the drive young people have to join an international association? Does your association or union have these aspects that catch their attention?

In our workshop, we invite you to a guided discussion about finding value for young people in your association and we encourage you to acquire the point of view of this generation.

With audience interaction and case studies from our association, we highlight the importance of events and outreach in seeking young members. Lastly, with insights from an association whose members solely consist of young people, we will not shy away from presenting to you how we get our own members involved. We are looking forward to seeing you there.



Presenters

Yash Gurbani

International Association of Physics Students

Biography

With an experience of five years of working with student associations, Yash Gurbani is passionate about science education, advocacy, and outreach. Currently, a graduate student studying physics at Heidelberg University, he is interested in research areas like computational physics and complex systems. To represent physics students from his home country and give them an international platform, he worked on founding the Association of Indian Physics Students and now has been serving as the Outreach Manager of the International Association of Physics Students (IAPS) since 2021. He organizes events to promote science and has also worked on advocacy initiatives to promote equality, diversity, and well-being in physics students. He is also a representative in the Affiliate Commission 5 of the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics (IUPAP). An aspiring educator and researcher, he wishes to pursue his curiosity and share the joy it brings with others to make a meaningful change in the communities he is a part of.

Cyrus Walther

International Association of Physics Students

Biography

Cyrus Pan Walther is the President of the International Association of Physics Students, representing the global community of physics students and their interests. Completing his studies at the Technical University of Dortmund, his professional focus lies in machine learning algorithms and artificial intelligence. Through his former position as the Events Manager, he obtained a skillset based on the landscape of International Student Associations. Focussing around creating value for members and fostering international connections, membership engagement belongs to his core focal points. Combined with his position as the Vice-Chair for Physics and Industry in the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics (IUPAP), he is advocating the process of identifying and obtaining valuable resources for young members in associations of all kinds.

KOREA

Widen your reach

More than just a destination, Korea offers a new way of looking at business.



Presenters

Håkan Johansson

Lund University, Sweden

Workshop: 'Who rules civil society? Is there 'an elite' dominating European civil societies?'

National governments and international organizations engage civil society organizations in debates on pressing societal challenges, but who has actually a seat at the table? Drawing on research on civil society elites in Italy, Poland, Sweden, the UK and the EU level, this round table will offer some answers to questions like: What demographic backgrounds and types of capital open up an elite career in civil societies? How can elite mobility between political, business and civil society be understood? What legitimacy losses are at stake as power and resources are centralized at the top of major civil society organizations?



Biography

Håkan Johansson is a professor at Lund University, Sweden. He has been widely engaged in studying civil society and social movements and has published on EU civil society, Europeanization of domestic civil societies and the limitation of civil societies' democratic potentials. Currently he leads a research program entitled "Civil society elites? Comparing elite composition, reproduction, integration and contestation in European civil societies" which addresses power and resource inequalities within civil societies for instance by studying elite biographies of civil society leaders (see www.civilsocietyelites.lu.se).

Presenters

Catherine Kalamidas

Rotterdam Partners

Workshop: 'The Dreamers & Doers: Rotterdam as a Living Lab for the Future of Events'

In this session we will take you back in time and show how the lessons of the past influence the decisions of the future. From Desiderius Erasmus Roterodamus, to the rebuilding of the city after WWII, to the regeneration of today's Rotterdam: a future facing city, finding opportunities in challenges. We will look at how the goal of the Convention Bureau of Rotterdam Partners is to align the mission of incoming congresses and events with the city's ambitions, contributing to the resilience of the city, and building a Rotterdam for generations to come.



Biography

Catherine Kalamidas joined the Rotterdam Partners CVB in 2016 and has since collaborated with Rotterdam's triple helix of government, industry and academia to strategically acquire international congresses which align with the future ambitions of the city and its institutes. Her focus sectors include Life Science & Health, Agri-food, Digitalization & Sustainability. She has been active in the international events industry for more than 20 years, initially developing and organizing high level congresses in the maritime industry, and later serving as Director of Operations for an international PCO, leading the activities of the European Space Agency Conference Bureau. Catherine is on the Education Committee of the ICCA France Benelux Chapter and is a member of the Meetings Industry Steering Group of City Destinations Alliance.

Presenters

Ivo J. Franschitz

Founder & Owner of ENITED Business Events

Workshop: 'Becoming a SMART association'

Stay connected and remain relevant for your current and future members, your stakeholders and your global community of common interest, at large. The biggest challenge for every association is to be and remain relevant in its respective field of expertise, in an extremely fast-moving world of information and knowledge, with instant accessibility and while facing the individuals' scarcity of time. In this 40-minute workshop/discussion, we will take a closer look into the necessary transformation and its journey to become a SMART(er) association.



The need to transform the association into a community platform of knowledge and experiences, making use of business events as catalysts for their development and growth, leading to a more sustainable future. And creating business events as live communication stages, where people come together in inspiring surroundings, experience new ideas and innovations, and engage in the design of solutions.

Biography

Ivo J. Franschitz owns a Master degree in International Marketing from the Vienna University of Economics and his early career milestones include Senior Marketing & Management positions in the Tourism and Business events industry. Currently he holds a Board member position with EMBA (Event Marketing Board Austria) and with LiveCom Alliance, as well as being an active member of ICCA and of 27NAMES. His qualifications include an ISO certification (Certified Event Expert).

Presenters

Glen Hodgson

Founder & CEO, Free Trade Europa

Workshop: 'Technology and Challenges for Think Tanks'

This session will look at the rise of social media, the increasingly crowded information space where everyone can be a publisher/influencer and the threat that this poses to established think tanks. The presentation will also highlight the elements that think tanks need to look at and focus on to meet this trend head-on, cut through the noise and remain relevant. The principal message will be that think tanks need to adapt to the new reality while their content, communications channels and delivery need to adapt too.



Biography

With over 20 years' experience in communications, public affairs and lobbying, Glen is the founder of the think tank Free Trade Europa. Glen also leads a stakeholder initiative on the platform economy in the Nordics.

Glen was previously responsible for the Nordics, Baltics and Central & Eastern Europe within an international communications agency. Prior to this he worked for the European institutions as well as governments, blue-chip international companies, startups and NGOs as a lobbyist, strategist and communications advisor.

Glen was also the Secretary General of a European trade association for five years. Today, Glen is a respected commentator on European affairs, as well as a frequent presenter, moderator and panellist at European policy events. Glen is also a trainer and coach on technology, migration, labour force, transport and sustainability policy as well as communications techniques for the public and private sectors.

Presenters

Ryan Brubaker

web and database developer, UIA - Union of International Associations

Workshop: "Achieving goals, finding partners: UIA's Global Civil Society Database"

UIA provides tools and data to help associations with their outreach, event planning and more. Ryan will present a number of UIA's tools, including a live demo of 'Open Yearbook' and 'Open Calendar', explain the history and future plans of the Global Civil Society Database, and will answer questions about how associations can best take advantage of these free resources.



Biography

Ryan has worked as a web and database developer at UIA since 2011. He is responsible for the user interface of UIA's databases, the ongoing development of UIA's website and the visual identity of the organization. He also provides regular training sessions on the use of UIA's *Yearbook of International Organizations* and *International Congress Calendar* digital publications.

Before joining UIA, Ryan ran a communications design studio crafting online identities for associations and small businesses.

About the UIA

“... to serve as a centre for documentation, study, service, and the promotion of closer relations between international associations.”

The Union of International Associations (UIA) is a non-profit, independent research institute documenting the current and historical work of international nongovernmental organizations (INGOs) and intergovernmental organizations (IGOs) and promoting the public awareness of their activities.

Since its foundation, the UIA has focused on recording the nature and evolution of international civil society. The UIA's focus today is on promoting the internationality of these organizations and in representing the collective views of international bodies.

The UIA collects, hosts and provides up-to-date, reliable information on global civil society, and maintains the most comprehensive source of information on international associations, their activities and concerns, and their meetings activities.

The UIA has existed since 1907 when it was founded by two Belgians, Henri La Fontaine and Paul Otlet. La Fontaine was an international lawyer, professor of international law, and a member of the Belgian Senate for 36 years. He was a socialist, a renowned bibliographer, and a devoted internationalist. In 1913 he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for his work as “the effective leader of the peace movement in Europe”. He and his sister Léonie La Fontaine were also early advocates for women's rights and suffrage, founding the Belgian League for the Rights of Women in 1890.

Otlet was a lawyer, bibliographer, political activist, and a Utopian with an internationalist agenda. His seminal work in documentation included the creation of the Universal Decimal Classification system. Otlet envisioned an international Network for Universal Documentation: a machine which would allow users to search, read and write to a database stored on millions of index cards, and which could be accessed from great distances. The idea of networked documents was so novel that no one had a word to describe these relationships until Otlet invented one: links. Today, Otlet is considered one of the fathers of information science.

The UIA has Consultative Relations with UNESCO, UN/ECOSOC, and ILO. It collaborates with the Council of Europe and the European Commission. A special ECOSOC resolution of 1950 establishes cooperation between the United Nations and the UIA for the preparation of the Yearbook of International Organizations.

The UIA is in regular contact with some 43,000 active international non-governmental organizations documented in the Yearbook.

FUTURE UIA ROUNDTABLES:

17th UIA Associations Round Table - Brussels

Brussels - 24 November 2023, Marriott Grand Place

10th UIA Associations Round Table - Asia-Pacific

September/October 2023 - date and location TBA

18th UIA Associations Round Table - Europe

Florence, Italy - 14 & 15 November 2024

19th UIA Associations Round Table - Brussels

Brussels, Belgium - October/November 2025

20th UIA Associations Round Table - Europe

Lucerne, Switzerland - October/November 2026

UIA's Purpose

The UIA's aims as stated in its statutes are to:

- *Facilitate the evolution of the world-wide network of non-profit organizations.*
- *Promote understanding of how such bodies represent valid interests in every field of human activity – scientific, religious, artistic, educational, trade, labour.*
- *Collect and disseminate information on these bodies and their interrelationships.*
- *Present such information in experimental ways, as a catalyst for the emergence of innovative bodies.*
- *Promote research on the legal, administrative and other problems common to these bodies.*

The UIA seeks to achieve these goals primarily in three ways:

1. By documenting global civil society activity

The UIA's associations database – the basis of the Yearbook of International Organizations both online and in print – attempts to cover all “international organizations”, according to a broad range of criteria. It therefore includes many bodies that may be perceived as not being fully international, or as not being organizations as such, or as not being of sufficient significance to merit inclusion. Such bodies are nevertheless included, so as to enable users to make their own evaluation in the light of their own criteria.

In preparing and updating the organization profiles, the UIA gives priority to information received from the organizations themselves, then checks this information against other sources (periodicals, official documents, media, etc.) to present a reliable picture of a dynamic situation. The information presented by the UIA is structured, comprehensive and concise. A standard framework makes comparison possible.

2. By publishing research reports

The UIA's associations database is continuously updated and includes descriptions of some 70,000 international organizations – NGOs and IGOs – active in all fields of human endeavour, in all corners of the world, and throughout centuries of history.

Its meetings database – the basis of the International Congress Calendar both online and in print – currently includes half a million international meetings of these bodies, from 1850 to far into the future.

The organization profiles and meetings profiles are complemented by bibliographies, SDGs, statistical reports, and descriptions of problems perceived and strategies adopted by international associations as well as the values and approaches that animate them. Over 500,000 hyperlinks facilitate navigation through this data.

The UIA also produces customized reports on demand for a variety of governmental, non-governmental, and commercial bodies.

3. By providing training and networking opportunities for international association staff

Since 2007 the UIA hosts annual Associations Round Tables, bringing together representatives of international associations to learn practical skills and share experience.

On 24 November 2023 the 17th UIA Associations Round Table – Brussels will be held in the Marriott Grand Place, Brussels, Belgium

The 10th Round Table Asia-Pacific will be held in September/October 2023, the dates and the destination will be announced soon. For more information, visit roundtable.uia.org.

CONTACT US

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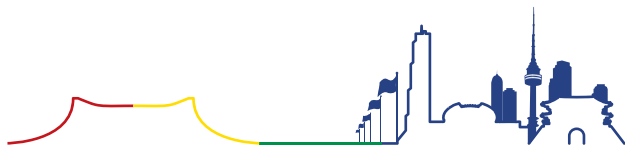
The UIA Round Tables provide an opportunity to learn through networking and through practice, to meet other international associations and share experience and knowledge to help you run your organization better.

We thank our partners for making it possible.

**GOTTERdam
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**GYEONGGI TOURISM
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KOREA, BEYOND MEETINGS

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