

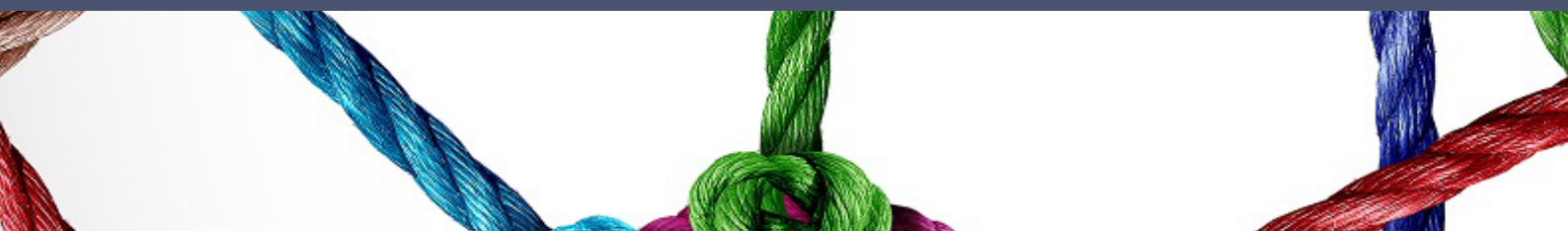


International
Science Council



WELCOME PACK

INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE COUNCIL



● WELCOME TO THE INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE COUNCIL

You are receiving this welcome pack as you are:

- lending your expert skills and knowledge to the ISC as part of the Governing Board, a Committee, a Panel of Experts or a Fellow;
- have recently taken up a new executive or focal point role with one of our [ISC Members](#);
- have recently taken up a new executive or focal point role with one of our [Affiliated Bodies](#);
- are joining the ISC as a new staff member, a consultant, or an intern.

This pack provides key information to assist you in understanding the ISC and speaking to our mission, vision and values.

We are delighted to officially welcome you into the ISC global community. You now stand together with over 250 international scientific unions and associations, as well as national and regional scientific organizations, including academies and research councils, forming the world's largest international non-governmental organization that brings together the natural and social sciences. [Please see our introductory brochure](#) in six languages and our [short introductory video](#).

● OUR VISION: SCIENCE AS A GLOBAL PUBLIC GOOD

The vision of the ISC is of **science as a global public good**. The importance of deliberative scientific understanding to society has never been greater, as humanity grapples with the problems of living sustainably and equitably on planet Earth. It is vital therefore that we safeguard science as a global public good. Its knowledge, data and expertise must be universally accessible and its benefits universally shared.

As a global science organization, we seek to advance this mission by working with our Members and partners at the global level to catalyse and convene scientific expertise, and to advise and influence on issues of major concern to science and society.

You can read more on the ISC's vision in our paper [Science as a Global Public Good](#).

● OUR MISSION: THE GLOBAL VOICE FOR SCIENCE

The mission of the ISC is to act as the global voice for science. As part of that mission, the ISC speaks for the value of all science and evidence-informed decision-making; stimulates and supports international scientific research and scholarship on major issues of global concern; articulates scientific knowledge on such issues in the public domain; promotes the continued and equal advancement of scientific rigour, creativity and relevance in all parts of the world; and defends the free and responsible practice of science.

● THE PRINCIPLE OF FREEDOM AND RESPONSIBILITY IN SCIENCE

The right to share in and to benefit from advances in science and technology is enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, as is the right to engage in scientific enquiry, to pursue and communicate knowledge, and to associate freely in such activities. Rights go hand in hand with responsibilities; in the responsible practice of science and the responsibility of scientists to contribute their knowledge in the public space. Both are **essential to the ISC's vision of science as a global public good**, as specified in Statute II, Article Seven, of the [ISC Statutes and Rules of Procedure](#).

“The free and responsible practice of science is fundamental to scientific advancement and human and environmental well-being. Such practice [...] requires responsibility at all levels to carry out and communicate scientific work with integrity, respect, fairness, trustworthiness, and transparency, recognizing its benefits and possible harms. In advocating the free and responsible practice of science, the Council promotes equitable opportunities for access to science and its benefits, and opposes [all] discriminations [...]”

- Excerpt of Statute II, Article Seven, International Science Council Statutes and Rules of Procedure.

You can read more about the principle of freedom and responsibility in science in [A contemporary perspective on the free and responsible practice of science in the 21st century](#), a discussion paper of the ISC’s [Committee for Freedom and Responsibility in Science](#) (CFRS).

● ISC GOVERNANCE

The main governance body of the Council is its [General Assembly](#) which ordinarily meets once every three years and provides a unique forum for interdisciplinary and international exchange. The [ISC Governing Board](#), consisting of five Officers and ten Ordinary Members, is elected and mandated by the General Assembly to implement its decisions, with the help of the ISC Secretariat. A number of [Advisory Bodies](#) assist and advise the Governing Board on key aspects of the Council’s work and the Governing Board’s duties.

● KEY DOCUMENTS TO GET YOU STARTED

- The [ISC 2022 – 2024 Action Plan](#) *Science and Society in Transition* provides a practical frame for our work, which is prioritized around five domains of global impact. The success of our projects depends greatly on the participation of our Members and partners and we invite you to collaborate with us in the implementation of our various activities and programmes.
- Read up on our latest activities in our [Annual Report](#). 2022 was a turbulent year for the world, and in times of crises, we are reminded of the importance of collaboration and the resilience of our networks – we are indeed stronger together.
- [Unprecedented & Unfinished: COVID-19 and Implications for National and Global Policy](#), the new flagship policy report from the ISC, outlines plausible scenarios for the COVID-19 pandemic and serves as an analytical tool for policy-makers.
- The report [ISC strategy in the intergovernmental system](#) outlines a strategy for the Council to become the go-to organization for scientific expertise and to enhance the impact of the Council to strengthen the global voice for science in global policy processes. We have recently created the [United Nations Group of Friends for Science Action](#) as part of the outcomes of this report.
- See all of our **publications** here: council.science/publications

● CENTRE FOR SCIENCE FUTURES

The ISC established the Centre for Science Futures to improve our understanding of emerging trends in science and research systems, and to provide options and tools for appropriate action. The Centre acts as a think tank, and will serve the ISC, its Members, and the global scientific community by carrying out analytical work, organizing workshops, and compiling resources.

Visit the Centre: futures.council.science

● WHAT YOU CAN DO TODAY TO ENGAGE WITH THE ISC

You will play a critical role in our mission of bringing together and of integrating scientific excellence and science-policy expertise from all fields of science and all regions of the world. We warmly invite you to participate in ISC activities, and to be part of our wider international science community. But here are a few things you can do today to begin your relationship with the ISC and our global community:

- Sign up for our monthly general [newsletter](#) and specific regional or thematic newsletters
- Connect with us on social media (via [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Instagram](#) and [YouTube](#))
- Consider attending any upcoming ISC and partner events, which are listed on our [events page](#).
- You can also find [guidelines for ISC logos](#) and the [key documents](#) mentioned throughout this welcome pack on our website on the [Notice Board](#).

● YOUR FOCAL POINTS WITHIN THE ISC SECRETARIAT

- Governing Board Members are invited to contact [Sarah Moore](#), Operations Director
- Fellows are invited to contact [Tracey Elliott](#), Special Consultant
- New Members are invited to contact [Anne Thieme](#), Membership Liaison Officer
- Affiliated Bodies are invited to contact [Katsia Paulavets](#)
- Standing Committee Members are invited to contact:
 - [Alison Meston](#) for Outreach and Engagement (COE)
 - [Vivi Stavrou](#) for Freedom and Responsibility in Science (CFRS)
 - [Sarah Moore](#) for Finance and Fundraising (CFF)
 - [Katsia Paulavets](#) for Science Planning (CSP)
- For the Centre for Science Futures, please contact [Mathieu Denis](#), Head of the Centre
- General requests for information can be sent to secretariat@council.science

You can also familiarize yourself with the entire ISC team on our [staff page](#). Please do not hesitate to contact any of these colleagues at any time. If you are based in Paris or passing through, please consider making an appointment to visit the Secretariat at [Headquarters](#).

Thank you for your interest and dedication to the ISC – we are looking forward to close collaboration.



International Science Council

The global voice for science

Work with the ISC to advance science as a global public good.

Connect with us at:

www.council.science
secretariat@council.science
International Science Council
5 rue Auguste Vacquerie
75116 Paris, France

twitter.com/ISC
facebook.com/InternationalScience
instagram.com/council.science
linkedin.com/company/international-science-council