



International
Science Council



Welcome

Welcome to the International Science Council, the global voice for science. Together we will advance science as a global public good.



**International
Science Council**

The global voice for science

From the President

John Howell, President
International Commission for Optics

Paris, 24 June 2022

Welcome to the International Science Council Membership

Dear Mr Howell,

On behalf of the Governing Board as well as all Members and staff of the International Science Council (ISC), I am delighted to officially welcome the International Commission for Optics as Category 1 Member. You now stand together with over 200 international scientific unions and associations, as well as national and regional scientific organizations, including academies and research councils, forming the world's largest international NGO that brings together the natural and social sciences. [Please see our introductory brochure](#).

As a global science organization we seek to advance science as a global public good. Together with our Members and partners we work at the global level to catalyse and convene scientific expertise, and to advise and influence on issues of major concern to science and society. Both the responsible practice of science and the responsibility of scientists to contribute their knowledge in the public space are essential to the [ISC's vision](#), and the [Principle of Freedom and Responsibility in Science](#) which is enshrined in the [ISC Statutes](#).

Through our Members and our partnerships with ISC Affiliated Bodies, intergovernmental and international scientific organizations, and with our wider network of expertise, we are unique in our capacity to bring together and integrate scientific excellence and science-policy expertise from all fields of science and all regions of the world. The [ISC 2020 Annual Report](#) (our 2021 Annual Report will be published soon), as well as the [ISC 2018 – 2021 Activity and Achievement Report](#) provide more information on our global reach and impact. We warmly invite you, your members and your wider networks to participate in ISC activities, and to be part of our wider international science community. Here are some examples of how you might like to engage with the ISC and our Membership:

1. Promote science as a global public good

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 successful implementation of our projects highly depends on the participation of our Members and we invite you to collaborate with us and other ISC Members, as well as other international scientific organizations, funders, and stakeholders in the frame of our various activities and programmes.

Essential reading: [Science as a Global Public Good](#)

2. ISC General Assembly

Every three years, the [ISC General Assembly](#) will provide a unique forum for interdisciplinary and international exchange.



3. Follow and connect with us

We invite you to sign up for our monthly [newsletter](#), to connect with us on social media (via [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#), Instagram and [YouTube](#) and to consider attending any upcoming ISC and partner events, which are listed on our event pages. We would be delighted to list any of your upcoming events, calls for nominations or vacancies, as well podcasts, online courses and other opportunities on our website – please share the respective details with us in case of interest.

4. Freedom and Responsibility in Science

We warmly invite you to participate in our efforts to uphold the free and responsible practice of science by engaging with the Council's [Committee for Freedom and Responsibility in Science](#) (CFRS). CFRS works to uphold and protect the [freedoms](#) that scientists should enjoy, and the [responsibilities](#) they carry, while engaging in scientific practice. This includes monitoring and responding to threats to scientific freedoms and advising on responsible practice in challenging contexts. CFRS monitors individual and generic cases of scientists whose freedoms and rights are restricted as a result of carrying out their scientific research, and provides assistance in such cases where its intervention can provide relief and support activities of other relevant actors. As an ISC Member, you can signal a case of concern with the committee by contacting Vivi Stavrou, the [CFRS Executive Secretary](#). CFRS stands ready to work with you should you have concerns related to scientific freedom or responsibility anywhere in the world.

Essential reading: [A contemporary perspective on the free and responsible practice of science in the 21st century](#)

5. ISC Membership Notice Board – all information for ISC Members at a glance

The [ISC Membership Notice Board](#) is designed to collate key topics and issues that are of particular interest and importance to Members of the Council. It includes an overview of all current opportunities for engagement and upcoming deadlines in regard to ongoing calls for nominations and participation at the ISC and within the wider ISC scientific community, as well as access to key dates and documents. The information on the ISC Membership Notice Board is updated on a regular basis. We invite you to visit this page frequently and to share with us relevant calls, documents or other information that you may wish to share with the ISC membership.

Our membership liaison contact [Gabriela Ivan](#) will act as your focal point within the ISC. Please do not hesitate to contact her at any time.

The International Commission for Optics will be listed on the [ISC Membership Online Directory](#) shortly. Please do liaise with Gabriela on your entry for the Directory by providing official logo, website and description.

Thank you for your interest and dedication to the ISC, we look very much forward to our collaboration. For your ease of reference, we have made a welcome page of all the above information online that we invite you to share with colleagues and stakeholders: <https://council.science/welcome-information-kit-for-isc-members/>.

With kind regards,

Peter Gluckman, President, International Science Council