

WAU WEBSITE LAUNCH - 1st April 2020

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IUAES
International UNION of
ANTHROPOLOGICAL and
ETHNOLOGICAL sciences



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WAU: A global hub for anthropology

The World Anthropological Union (WAU) is an inclusive, cooperative forum that invigorates transnational anthropologies. WAU is the interface that unites the missions of the IUAES and the WCAA, galvanizing person-to-person international dialogues and stimulating cooperative exchange among anthropological associations. As a member of the ISC and the CIPSH, WAU represents the ethical and scientific values of the field as the discipline's primary international organization.

Our Priorities:

- to facilitate the conversation and collaboration among anthropologists and epistemic traditions around the world
- to bring awareness of global anthropological thought to international science and policy discussions
- to reflexively shape more inclusive approaches to world problems and their solutions.

IUAES The International Union of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences (IUAES) is a global organization of scientists and institutions working in the fields of anthropology and ethnology, but also of interest to archaeologists and linguists.

wcaa The World Council of Anthropological Associations (WCAA) is a network of national, regional and international associations that aims to promote worldwide communication and cooperation in anthropology.

Raising a Voice

The world is going through very testing times. Civil war in Syria, political tumult in almost every part of the world, the huge civil protests in India against what the people perceive as an unconstitutional attack on ordinary citizens and religion based discrimination and add to it raging wildfires in Australia, and the last straw on the camel's (the earth's) back, Novel Corona Virus.

The anthropological community, now under the umbrella organization of the World Anthropological Union (WAU) have been struggling to address some of these issues. Very recently WAU posted [a letter to the Iranian supreme authority Ayatollah Ali Khamenei](#) that was jointly signed by IUAES President Junji Koizumi and WCAA Chair Carmen Rial in support of anthropologist Fariba Adelkhah. Dr. Adelkhah, a distinguished scholar who has devoted her life to the study of religion and culture in Iran, has been languishing in an Iranian jail for quite some time.

In view of the extraordinary global situation created by the rapid spread of a virus, WAU has issued [a statement](#) on behalf of the anthropological community. The statement emphasizes what anthropologists have been saying all along, that humans are species, one race, and all other divisions no matter based on what criteria, are artificial constructs. Anthropologists have also for long emphasized the harmonious relationships of the natural world as essential to the well-being of all, including humans; a world-view that is being proven right, as environmental disasters are striking the world again and again.

IUAES also contributed to the webinar "[COVID-19: Responses from Around the Globe](#)" (2 April 2020). The webinar was facilitated by IUAES Secretary-General Noel B. Salazar, and Saša Missoni participated in his capacity as Deputy Chair of the IUAES Commission on Medical Anthropology and Epidemiology.

Achievements and Gains

WAU has begun to function as a united body and the WAU Steering Committee, composed of equal number of representatives from the IUAES Executive Committee and the WCAA Organizing Committee, is now meeting every two weeks.

It is being taken care that at every congress of the IUAES we have a WAU activity, like a roundtable. One was organized at Poznań and another is planned for Šibenik, Croatia. At the very successful congress at Poznań, there was a WAU Constituency Meeting held on the 30th of August 2019. A major agenda of the meeting was to revise [the OGRs \(Operational Guidelines and Rules\), now uploaded at the WAU website](#). The term "Inter-Congress" was abolished and replaced with a simple term "IUAES Congress," and some rules for creating, leading and abolishing IUAES Commissions were revised.

The financial statement has been received from the Organizer of the Poznan conference, indicating a surplus, part of which the IUAES is entitled.

Heather O' Leary, the Chair of the Council of Commissions has completed her review of the UN Global Sustainability Report. A very important joint effort has been uploading of [the multilingual text of a short description of the IUAES](#) on the WAU website. This text has been prepared initially by Faye Harrison, Mugsy Spiegel and Subhadra Channa and then worked on by Junji Koizumi, Noel Salazar, Sumita Chaudhuri and Heather O'Leary, each one giving valuable inputs. So far, English, Bengali, Chinese, Croatian, German, French, Hindi, Hungarian, Japanese, Polish, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish versions have been uploaded and an Oriya version is on the way. Kudos to Victoria Chenaut for taking this initiative. If you would like to contribute to the translation of the text into your own language, please write to s-g@iuaes.org.

The pandemic that has confined and restricted global travel and all forms of physical mobility has stimulated the felt need for holding virtual meetings in the future. The task force in place to accomplish this goal is now doubly motivated to get this on board. This should be soon one of the achievements of WAU.

Future Events of WAU

The next IUAES Congress is scheduled to be held in Sibenik, Croatia, on 7-11th October 2020. The theme of the congress is ***Coming of Age on Earth: Legacies and Next Generation Anthropology***. It will be held at the Convention Centre Šibenik, Arnadia Park, Šibenik, Croatia.

The call for panels brought forth a good response and the call for papers is now out. Keeping in view the serious situation of Corona virus, the deadline for the paper abstracts has been extended to 1st June 2020. Papers can still be submitted to [the more than seventy panels](#) that have been accepted. It is hoped that the congress will be a great success and the pandemic situation is going to subside in the near future.

Proposals have been received for future congresses. In 2021, offer has been received from an executive member, Victoria Chenaut for holding a congress in Mérida, Yucatán (Mexico) in 2021. The proposal has been approved by the Executive Committee and the dates were finalized as 9-13th November 2021.

For 2022, there is a strong proposal from St. Petersburg, Russia, for a Congress on 25-31st May 2022 that has been approved by the Executive Committee.

In 2023 the World Congress is coming up in Bhubaneshwar in Odisha, India, on 15-19th January 2023. Preparations are on and Secretary-General Noel Salazar had paid a visit in February to assess the ongoing activities and infra-structure.



The Executive Committee has also received a proposal from Maynooth, Ireland, for a later congress.

From Other Organizations

WAU is the member of [ISC \(International Science Council\)](#) and [CIPSH \(International Council for Philosophy and Human Sciences\)](#). Regular news and updates are received from both these organizations and passed on to our members by our President and Secretary-General.

In November 2019, the IUAES as an ISC member approved the membership application of The Korean Academy of Science and Technology (KAST) and of The Society for Advancement of Science (SASA) to become affiliate members of the ISC.

In January 2020, [Call for Applications to the CIPSH Chairs program](#) was received. These chairs have been established to continue and enhance research in the humanities and social sciences

and also to encourage research across institutions and regions. The call for these chairs is open up to April 20th 2020.

The CIPSH is jointly organizing the European Humanities Conference in Lisbon, Portugal from the 5-7th of May, 2021. This conference is also supported by UNESCO and the Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology.

CIPSH is also going to organize an International Academy on Chinese Cultures and Global Humanities- consisting of a series of yearly high level intensive seminars, focusing on specific themes every year. In the first three years it is proposed that the program will be held in Europe.

In December 2019, Mary J Hallin , the Chair of the IUAES Commission on Documentation, forwarded [the Call for HRAF \(Human Relations Area Files\) Global scholarships.](#)

IUAES Commissions

A history of the IUAES Commissions in recent years is as follows:

In 2010, a new Commission was established:

- Intangible Cultural Heritage

In 2013, there were 30 IUAES Commissions of which three were abolished:

- Primatology
- Bioethics
- Anthropology of Mathematics

At the same time, three Commissions were transformed:

- Anthropological Dimensions of Global Change became Global Transformations and Marxian Anthropology
- Anthropology in Policy and Practice became Anthropology, Public Policy and Development Practice
- Human Ecology was revived as Anthropology and the Environment

In 2015, a new Commission was added:

- Anthropology and Education

In 2016, two new Commissions came up:

- Marginalization and Global Apartheid
- Anthropology of Music, Sound and Bodily Performative Practices

In 2017, two more Commissions were initiated:

- Anthropology of Risk and Disaster
- Anthropology of Sports

In 2019, a Commission was abolished:

- Commission on Urgent Anthropological Research

Also in 2019, a new commission was established:

- Global Feminisms and Queer Politics

The Commission participation in the IUAES Congresses is quite healthy. There are efforts being made to revise the parameters for the proposal of a new Commission that will be soon communicated to the members.

Call for Member Participation

If you have relevant information that you, as a member of the IUAES, wants to share with other members in the next newsletter, please get in touch with the newsletter editors. (Please note that publication in *IUAES NEWS* is subject to our editorial policy.)

Remember also that you can share and read news, at any time, through the IUAES social media channels:

<https://www.facebook.com/IUAES-1525250224390454/>

https://twitter.com/IUAES_EC (hashtag #IUAES)

Note: The GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation) went into effect on 25th May 2018. In the context of the new privacy legislation by the EU, we want to inform you that we only collect personal details strictly necessary for our communication with you. We do not share or sell your data to any third parties. You choose which communication you wish to receive from us. You can unsubscribe from the *IUAES News* or any other communication at any time, by sending a message to s-g@iuaes.org.

Subhadra Channa and Junji Koizumi, Editors

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