



Founded 1966

# International Association for Counselling



**The International Association for Counselling (IAC)** is an International Non-Governmental Association (NGO) with United Nations consultative status. Since 1966, we have worked to advance the development of counselling through practice, education, research, and advocacy initiatives. IAC advances the development of counselling in order to improve people's lives and well-being.

**Our Vision:** A world where counselling is available to all.

**Counselling** changes lives for the better and reduces suffering. IAC's humanitarian movement advocates for more access to counselling worldwide. IAC advocacy influences governments and intergovernmental organisations to have counselling better recognised as a profession. In some countries, there is no counselling at all. IAC helps to establish counselling structures (e.g. National Associations or Education Programmes) in those countries. IAC is working to advance the counselling profession worldwide and we invite you to join us in our mission. Technology is moving the global circle of counsellors ever closer. We embrace the modernisation of our profession and proudly serve to advance culturally relevant counselling practice, research, and policy worldwide.

## Main IAC Activity:

- **World Mapping of Counselling Activity**
- **Global Advocacy for the Counselling Profession**
- **Membership: For Individuals and Organisations**
- **International Counselling Journal (since 1978)**
- **International Conferences**
- **IAC RoundTable Meetings**
- **Partnership and Collaboration**



**World Mapping of Counselling Activity:** Until recently, there has been no comprehensive and systematic global study of the counselling profession. IAC's '**World Mapping** of Counselling Activity' is designed to generate detailed knowledge about the counselling profession in each of the world's 196 countries. Mapping is the compilation of data and information about counselling and counsellors around the world. It includes information on scale and standards of activity. This information will enable significantly enhanced public information, connectivity, advocacy (both national and international), and information sharing, for individual counsellors and the wider profession. It will raise public and professional awareness of counselling services, aid planning, and enable counselling leaders to strongly advocate for counselling at discussions of mental health and education policy both at world and national levels.

**Global Advocacy for the Counselling Profession:** The IAC '**Global Advocacy** for the Counselling Profession' project aims to bring a much-needed international voice for the counselling profession to both intergovernmental and national discussions. IAC advocacy strengthens the position of counselling by influencing counselling-related policy worldwide. We aim to enhance the reputation and credibility of the profession by influencing decision-making in political, institutional and social systems. Important, high-level policy decisions on mental health, education, social issues, and work, are made at the intergovernmental level (e.g. WHO, UNESCO and ILO) and it is essential to ensure the appropriate inclusion of counselling. Policy decisions have a direct influence on the approaches that national governments take in these areas and impact you, your clients, and





the counselling profession. In most of the world, there is significant dissatisfaction with the status quo and the lack of recognition of the importance of counselling. It is essential that we come together to influence the standing, credibility, and recognition of the profession, and lead to long-term improvements for our clients worldwide.

**Memberships: For Individuals and Organisations:** Membership is open to Individuals, Associations, Education Institutes and Counselling Services. There are multiple member benefits, including:

- ✓ **IAC Journal:** Thousands of counselling articles - all back issues (since 1978)
- ✓ **IAC member Logo and ‘Certificate of Membership’**
- ✓ **Worldwide Contacts & Professional Network**
- ✓ **Professional and Educational:** Newsletters, Webinars and Updates
- ✓ **Representation:** Advocacy to UN/WHO and Governments
- ✓ **Discounts:** On conference tickets, events and advertising



**IAC Quarterly Journal:** The ‘*International Journal for the Advancement of Counselling*’ has been in publication since 1978. It promotes the exchange of information about counselling activities throughout the world. The journal contains over 1,300 conceptual, practical and research contributions that provide an international perspective on: theories and models of counselling and guidance; counsellor education and supervision; state of the art reports on counselling in specific settings; special populations; special applications; and counselling services in developing countries.

**IAC International Conferences:** IAC conferences bring scholars, researchers, educators, students, professionals and other groups interested in counselling together to listen and share their knowledge, research findings and educational practices. Our conference programmes contain diverse and high-quality line ups of keynote speakers, presenters, discussion groups, posters and social activity. IAC conferences aim to have a lasting impact on the development of counselling in the host country and association—becoming a catalyst for national progress and global reach. We look forward to seeing you at an IAC event. Upcoming IAC conferences:

- **2018 Rome, Italy**, 22-23 September 2018
- **2019 Moncton, New Brunswick, Canada** (in conjunction with CCPA), 14-17 May 2019
- **2020 Kuching, Malaysia**

**IAC RoundTable Meetings:** IAC Roundtables are ‘discussion and action’ groups that present excellent opportunities for individual counsellors and associations from around the world to meet, discuss and plan activity with their international colleagues. IAC has RoundTables in the following areas: Research; Ethics; Associations (for Association Leaders); Practitioners; Indigenous Peoples; Students; Peace and Social Justice; and Projects.

**IAC Partnership and Collaboration:** For over 50 years, IAC has partnered and worked with National, Regional, and Inter-governmental Organisations and Institutes. IAC greatly values these relationships. For enquiries relating to partnership, hosting an IAC conference, sponsorship, organisational membership, or project collaboration, please contact the IAC Chief Executive Officer: Mr. Naoise Kelly. **Email:** [ceo@iac-irtac.org](mailto:ceo@iac-irtac.org)



**IAC – Connecting Counsellors Worldwide**

See all details on our website: [www.iac-irtac.org](http://www.iac-irtac.org)

