



A GLOBAL VOICE FOR A COMMON FUTURE

HOW TO BECOME AN IFCU AFFILIATE?

Information / Contact

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Who we are

IFCU is a federation founded on Christian humanism, at the service of its members who work in very different conditions and face enormous challenges.

Our task is to accompany our members in fostering university cooperation, promoting the social responsibility of universities and valuing academic expertise, at a time when universities are facing new challenges and their mission, educational models, community engagement strategies and funding structures are being transformed.

We aim to support global collaboration, linking the voices of our members to a global commitment to more inclusive higher education grappling with the challenges highlighted by the Sustainable Development Goals.

The global tangle of environmental, economic, political, cultural and social challenges imposes a new role on our members.

Technological upheavals are changing the nature of work, modes of sociality and interactivity, political and communication strategies, interactivity, political engagement strategies and the very idea of the human.

In this economy, the uses of the university (what is it used for?), the nature of its stakeholders (who does it serve?), the role of the university in society and how it is perceived (how does the university produce knowledge?) and finally its relevance (how does the university create value?) impose a wider and deeper responsibility on federations such as IFCU.

As a global federation, IFCU's task is also to build bridges between different regions of the world and social realities, to encourage collaboration between disciplines and modes of knowledge production, to foster spaces for dialogue between its members (institutions, researchers, students) and between them and other societal actors.



"Universities are exceptional environments for articulating and developing this evangelizing commitment in an interdisciplinary and integrated way."

Pope Francis, Evangelii Gaudium, 134

EXTRACTS OF THE STATUTES CONCERNING THE APPLICATION FOR IFCU MEMBERSHIP

The Articles 6, 7, 8 and 9 of the IFCU Statutes state the criteria of membership as follows:

Article 6 - The institutional membership of the Federation is composed of Catholic universities and Catholic institutions of higher education which can be under two categories: members and associates.

Article 7 - GENERAL CRITERIA FOR MEMBERSHIP

The following conditions must be fulfilled for the admission as member of any candidate university or institution of higher education:

1. an academic and scientific work of quality and sufficient material and logistic means to carry it out;
2. a Christian inspiration, not only individual, but also of the community as well;
3. a reflection on the benefits of human and scientific knowledge in the light of Christian faith;
4. fidelity to the Christian message as passed on by the Church;
5. an institutional commitment to the service of Christian thought and education;
6. that it be established in accordance with existing civil and ecclesiastical laws;
7. that it has officially awarded degrees;
8. that it be recommended by two member universities or institutions: whenever possible, one recommendation comes from within the candidate's country and one located in another country;
9. that a member university has at least three schools or equivalent divisions at the university level;
10. that a member university or institution of higher education has been in existence for five years.

Article 8 - ASSOCIATE UNIVERSITIES AND INSTITUTIONS

Every university or institution of higher education wishing to become an associate must fulfil the general criteria stipulated in Art. 7, 1-8 included; it must also comply with one or two of the following characteristics:

1. to have less than three faculties or equivalent divisions of university level;
2. to have less than five years of existence.

Article 9 - PARTNER INSTITUTIONS

Partner institutions which do not fulfil the criteria for affiliation, collaborate with IFCU in the context of a shared interest in higher education issues, and in respect of the founding values of the Federation. They are invited to participate, without the right to vote, in the General Assemblies and in all the Federation's activities.

The Articles 10 and 11 govern the rapports among the Federation and its membership, as follows:

Article 10 - RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF MEMBERS AND ASSOCIATES

1. member and associate universities or institutions of higher education have the right to participate in the Federation's activities and services as well as in its consultation, and to request mutual assistance;
2. members and associates undertake to pursue the Federation's mission and purposes, observe the Statutes, and pay the membership dues set by the General Assembly.
3. it is the task of the members and associates to make recommendations to the Board of Administration regarding the place, time and theme of the next General Assembly.

Article 11 - SUSPENSION AND EXCLUSION FROM MEMBERSHIP

1. the rights of members and associates are suspended by a decision of the Board of Administration if the criteria for admission no longer fulfilled and/or the dues have not been paid for two consecutive years without just motive;
2. in the event of suspension, it is the responsibility of the Board of Administration; to decide, if any request for readmission is made, whether or not a new request for membership file should be presented;
3. members and associates can submit their resignation from the Federation with prior notice of three months. This resignation takes effect after its acceptance by the Board of Administration. Dues must be paid pro rata temporis up until the moment that the resignation is accepted by the Board.

5 major services dedicated to affiliates articulate the activities of the Federation

1. A Training Department

It is by taking into account the changes of higher education and wishing to better prepare our Catholic universities that the Training Department was created.

These training sessions are structured around topics such as "Management and Leadership", "Internationalization", "communication", "University Pastoral Care", and "Improving Research Policies".

The training offer is set to evolve in order to take into account the reality of an ever-changing university world and to propose programs that will enable university and Catholic world staff to meet the major challenges of today and tomorrow.

For the period 2017-2024, more than 250 people have been trained in face-to-face and distance learning in English, Spanish and French.

2. IFCU-CIRAD, a tool for fostering scientific cooperation

The globalization of international issues is forcing the research community to work from now on at the international level, in order to apprehend problems both in their global dimension but also by considering their local impacts. The IFCU member universities offer the advantage of being present on all continents, to be able to approach research in a multidisciplinary perspective integrating cultural expectations and to be able to work within the framework of International Research Groups, within the International Center of Research and Decision Support (CIRAD). The latter, founded in 1975, aims to promote interuniversity and multidisciplinary research within the framework of international cooperation and offers a space for meetings, debates, intellectual productions and sharing of knowledge...

3. The Higher Education Foresight Unit

The global market for higher education is today challenged by profound changes; those linked to the 4th industrial revolution, organized around the NICT revolution and now Artificial Intelligence, are among the most important. In the short term, the organization of our campuses will be deeply modified; While the world of employment will be transformed by the emergence of new jobs, the disappearance and the mutation of current jobs, our universities must also prepare themselves to launch new trainings.

In order to help Rectors and Management Teams of its member universities, IFCU has created a Higher Education Foresight Unit. Its activities are as follows: publication of an annual report on the "Future of jobs", publication of an annual report on Catholic Higher Education; publication of notes on emerging trends in Higher Education, animation of debates and seminars around the challenges our institutions are facing.

4. Global and global presence and networking: sharing experiences

The presence of IFCU in the International Institutions dates from 1965, this international Catholic voice in the field of knowledge is heard in Paris at UNESCO with an observer status, obtained in 1967; in New York at the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC); in Geneva, at the UN Human Rights Council; in Strasbourg, at the Council of Europe. The Federation is also present in the OECD Higher Education Stakeholder Forum and the OSCE Network of Think Tanks and Academic Institutions.

In all these instances, the voice of Catholic academics, via the network of experts of the Federation finds an echo.

5. A collaborative platform : the worldwide portal of Catholic Universities - wcu.academy

In the course of 2020, IFCU launched a single portal for all Catholic universities, with practical features reserved for the affiliates of the Federation.

This cooperation tool aims to provide the most comprehensive overview possible of Catholic Higher Education and to foster collaboration between affiliated universities via a collaborative platform, calls for collaboration, calls for projects, etc.

In 2025, the Platform 2.0 will be released with new tools of cooperation which will provide better interaction between IFCU affiliates.

ANNUAL FEES FOR IFCU AFFILIATES BASED ON STUDENT ENROLMENT

Institutions	Low income countries	Middle income countries	High income countries
Cat. A -1000 students	630 €	674€	693€
Cat.B 1000-5000 students	1260€	1348€	1386€
Cat.C 5000-10 000 students	2100€	2247€	2310€
Cat.D 10 000 students +	2940€	3146€	3234€



MEMBERSHIP FORM 1/2

— ALL THE INFORMATION MUST BE SENT DIRECTLY
TO THE IFCU GENERAL SECRETARIAT - sgfiuc@bureau.fiuc.org

REGISTRATION FORM

Director / President / Chairman :

Date :

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Membership Type : Member Associate Partner

[Five years of existence as university and three schools / faculties or equivalents divisions are required for Member, Article 7 of the Statutes]

GENERAL INFORMATION

Institution :

Year of Foundation :

Full Address :

City / Country : Postcode

Contact E-Mail :

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

IFCU Affiliate in the same country :

IFCU Affiliate in another country :

Signature

MEMBERSHIP FORM 2/2

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DOCUMENTS TO PRODUCE

- 1. A letter from President/Rector requesting membership and stating commitment to Christian character [see Article7]**
- 2. A copy of the charter or Statutes of the University/College**
- 3. Current academic catalog with the following information:**
 - A. Enrollment figures for last three years (no minimum enrollment is required for membership, but the dues are based in enrollment);
 - B. A list of faculty and their qualifications (this may be in the catalog);
 - C. Description of library and statistics on library holdings; Previous year's financial statement.

PROCEDURE TO STUDY THE CANDIDACY

- 1. Examination of the whole file in Paris by the General Secretary.**
- 2. Presentation of the dossier and advice of the members of the IFCU Executive regarding the candidacy.**
- 3. Consultation of the members of the IFCU Board of Administration pertaining to the same continent that the university petitioner.**
- 4. Final decision conveyed by the General Secretary [within the two months following the reception of the file].**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR INFORMATION