

Conference Programme Committee Guidelines

Conference Programme Committees are formed as generative bodies, reflecting upon the academic themes identified by the International Academic Board (IAB) and generating the academic programme for the conference(s) they are assigned to, by applying the IAFOR Themes to a given location.

About IAFOR

Founded in 2009, The International Academic Forum (IAFOR) is a mission-driven politically independent non-partisan and non-profit organisation dedicated to encouraging interdisciplinary discussion, facilitating intercultural awareness and promoting international exchange, principally through educational interaction and academic research.

Through its international, intercultural and interdisciplinary conferences, research, and publications, IAFOR is a network hub for interdisciplinary discussion across Asia and beyond, connecting individuals and institutions across the globe, and the thought leaders of today with those of tomorrow.

IAFOR runs research projects and events in Asia, Europe and North America in partnership with universities, think tanks and learned societies. IAFOR has also worked on a number of multi-sector cooperative programs and events, including collaborations with the United Nations and the Government of Japan.

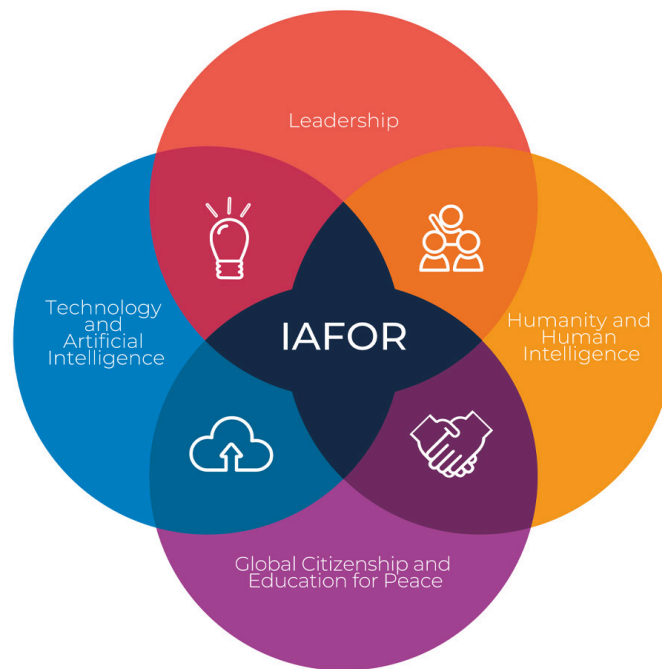
IAFOR Themes 2025-2029

IAFOR's conference programme provides an essential comparative and contrastive space for people to engage in multidisciplinary research across borders of nation, culture, discipline, and professions. We encourage mixed approaches and methodologies, combining theory and practice between and across the disciplines, and we look to harness the collective intelligence of our International Academic Forum in addressing some of the most pressing issues of our time. Through the implementation of new formats in our conference programme over the last year, including Intelligence Briefings, Keynote Interviews, and The Forum, we gathered insights into what has been discussed at the theoretical and policy levels, identified the challenges, and the outlook for best practices in tackling global contemporary issues, which we have identified as the themes for 2025-2029.

These themes can be seen as standalone themes, but they are also very much in conversation with each other. Themes may be seen as corollaries, complementary, or in opposition/juxtaposition with each other. The themes can be considered as widely as possible and are designed, in keeping with our mission, to encourage ideas across the disciplines.

Our selected themes for 2025-2029 bring together ideas and encourage research and synergies in the following areas.

International | Intercultural | Interdisciplinary



Technology and Artificial Intelligence

Our first theme examines the rapid pace of technological advancements, aided most particularly by those driven by artificial intelligence and its enormous and growing impact in all fields.

Humanity and Human Intelligence

Our second theme asks us which principles, values, and attributes we wish to encourage, protect, and nurture and how we accomplish this. Technological advancements constantly ask us to reconsider and reimagine what it means to be human, including questions regarding communication, creativity, inclusivity, ethics, and care.

Global Citizenship and Education for Peace

This theme prompts us to consider our existence and coexistence with each other, within our communities and places of belonging, and with peoples of different countries, cultures, and backgrounds, as well as with our environment and our planet. It includes engagement with enormous issues facing us beyond borders, such as peace and human security, climate change, etc.

Leadership

The final theme recognises the continuing importance of leadership as a skill, particularly in light of difficult times, where recognising and encouraging best practices in leadership at all levels of society is critical. Encouraging leadership at the government level, in businesses, and within institutions of all sizes represents the engine of change.

Roles and Responsibilities of the Conference Programme Committee (CPC)

The following are the roles and responsibilities of CPC members:

- Identify and analyse emerging issues within a specific geographical region that align with the IAFOR themes as defined by the International Academic Board (IAB).
- Propose at least one focused and relevant topic for discussion at the upcoming conference, ensuring it aligns with the broader conference objectives.
- Recommend at least one qualified speaker and/or panellist for the conference's plenary sessions from their extensive professional and institutional network.
- Draft abstract proposals for each suggested topic to facilitate outreach to potential speakers and panellists.
- Evaluate applications of and recommend potential new CPC members, ensuring the committee upholds principles of diversity and inclusion.
- Attend and actively contribute to monthly conference programme meetings.
- Maintain regular communication with IAFOR academic coordinators to ensure alignment on all key matters related to the conference.

Qualifications

To become a Conference Programme Committee member, the following criteria must apply:

- Must hold a PhD degree or demonstrate an impressive record of accomplishments within an institution or industry.
- Currently occupies, or has previously held, a senior or high-ranking position within their organisation or company, demonstrating significant leadership and expertise.
- Maintains strong connections with influential figures and leading institutions across academia, industry, or government sectors.
- Should be a national of, or professionally active within, the region where the conference is being held.
- Capable of recommending at least one prominent speaker or panellist with considerable standing in their field.
- Must be available to attend a minimum of two out of the three scheduled conference programme meetings.

Joining a Committee

Before applying to join a Conference Programme Committee, please ensure that you have thoroughly reviewed the information above. Incomplete applications or applications not written in English will not be considered.