

Minutes from the 34th IUPAP General Assembly Online, 31 October, 2025

The 34th General Assembly (GA) was the first of the “in-between assemblies”, held online, between the in-person assembly in China in 2024 and the next in-person assembly to be held in South Africa in 2027.

The full agenda and all the presentations are available on Indico:

[34th IUPAP General Assembly \(31 October 2025\) · Indico Global](https://indico.global/event/15321)
(<https://indico.global/event/15321>).

Participants registered

The IUPAP Executive Council elected for the period 2025—2027 (without voting rights)

President: Silvina Ponce Dawson (Argentina)

President Designate: Sunil Gupta (India)

Past President: Michel Spiro (France)

Secretary General for Legal and Financial Affairs: Jens Vigen (Switzerland)

Deputy Secretary General for Legal and Financial Affairs: Florencia Canelli (Switzerland)

Secretary General for Administrative Affairs: Stefano Fantoni (Italy)

Deputy Secretary General for Administrative Affairs: Sandro Scandolo (Italy)

Treasurer: Boris Sharkov (Russia)

Associate Secretary General: Rudzani Nemutudi (South Africa)

Vice President at Large for projects and sponsoring Kuijuan Jin (China-Beijing)

Vice President at Large with the responsibility for Outreach and Ethics: Laura Greene (USA)

Vice President at Large with the responsibility for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (in a wide sense): Gillian Butcher (UK)

Vice President at Large with the responsibility for Membership and Development: Irvy (Igle) Gledhill (South Africa)

Vice-President Elected from the Commission Chairs: Gloria Platero (C8) (Spain)

Vice-President Elected from the Commission Chairs: Shinji Yuasa (C9) (Japan)

Vice-President Elected from the Commission Chairs: Marcelo Gameiro Munhoz (C11) (Brazil)

Vice-President Elected from the Commission Chairs: Cather Simpson (C17) (New Zealand)

Vice-President Elected from the Commission Chairs: Simone Warzel (C18) (Germany)

Registered voting territorial members at the General Assembly

Argentina (Omar Osenda, 1 vote), Australia (Jennifer MacLeod, 3 votes), Austria (Joachim Burgdoerfer, 2 votes), Belgium (Robert Sporken, 3 votes), Bulgaria (Mitko Gaidarov, 1 vote), Canada (Oliver Stelzer, 4 votes), China–Beijing (Zhengguo Zhao, 5 votes), China–Taipei (Chia-Ming Kuo, 3 votes), Czech Republic (Alice Valkarova, 3 votes), Estonia (Marco Kirm, 1 vote), Finland (Juha Muhonen 2 votes), France (Stephan Fauve, 5 votes), Germany (Bernhard Nunner,

5 votes), Hungary (Sandor Katz, 2 votes), Ireland (Dominic Hurley, 1 vote), Italy (Raffaella Calarco, 5 votes), Japan (Akihide Fujisawa, 5 votes), Korea (Jaewook Ahn, 5 votes), Lithuania (Grazina Tautvaisiene, 1 vote), Netherlands (Christa Hooijer, 3 votes), New Zealand (Cather Simpson, 1 vote), Poland (Miroslaw Karpierz, 3 votes), Portugal (Pedro Abreu, 1 vote), Russia (Natalia Istomina, 6 votes), Slovenia (Nejc Košnik, 1 vote), South Africa (Rudolph Erasmus, 3 votes), Spain (Luis Vina, 4 votes), Sweden (Eva Lindroth, 4 votes), Switzerland (Hans Peter Beck, 3 votes), UK (Dominic Hurley, 5 votes), Uruguay (Sofia Favre, 1 vote), and USA (Elmer William Colglazier, 6 votes).

Registered voting personal members at the General Assembly (all with one vote)

Daniel Varela Magalhaes (C2), Janos Kertesz (C3), Ralph Engel (C4), Richard Hayley (C5), Patricia Bassereau (C6), Gloria Platero (C8), Shinji Yuasa (C9), Shobhana Narasimhan (C10), Marcelo Gameiro Munhoz (C11), Maria Jose Garcia Borge (C12), Joseph Niemela (C13), Manjula Sharma (C14), Jaewook Ahn (C15), Ursel Fantz (C16), Cather Simpson (C17), Simone Warzel (C18), Shuang-Nan Zhang (C19), Alfonso Munoz Gonzalez (C20), Eric Rosas (AC1), Gabriela Gonzalez (AC2), Jorge Arenas (AC3), Leonor Andrade (AC5), and Roberto Lalli (AC6)

Registered members of territorial delegations, corporate associate members and observers (without voting rights)

Hai-Qing Lin (China Beijing), Li Lu (China Beijing), Xiaoyan Shen (China Beijing), Jinping Wang (China Beijing), Mohamed Abdel Harith (Egypt), Georg Düchs (Germany), Karin Zach (Germany), Moses Jojo Eghan (Ghana), Younjung Jo (Republic of Korea), Myung-Hwa Jung (Republic of Korea), Sangmin Lee (Republic of Korea), Young Woo Son (Republic of Korea), Magherlly Daviran Carrasco (Peru), Mykhailo Bondar (Ukraine), Ana Ferreras (USA), Amy Flatten (USA), Kai Liu (USA), Michael Rubinstein (USA and WG15), Sekazi Mtingwa (USA), Joseph Niemela (USA), Elena Martínez Barcelo (AC5), Pierluigi Campana (WG1), Lilia Meza-Montes (WG5), Prajval Shastri (WG5), Tsuneyuki Ozaki (WG7), Christine Darve (WG14), Christophe Rossel (WG16), Cyrus Walther (WG16), Rolf Haug (Rejuvenation Task Force), and Gabriella Marra (IUPAP Secretariat)

1. Welcome to the IUPAP General Assembly and verification of the quorum

The President, Silvina Ponce Dawson welcomed the participants.

The total number of votes registered for the General Assembly were 121, while the quorum required 99 votes. It was agreed that everybody who had registered would be included in the quorum, even if they had not yet joined the General Assembly at the moment the delegates were called. Hence, the quorum was largely achieved.

2. Adoption of the agenda and approval of the minutes from the 33rd IUPAP General Assembly (2024)

The President, Silvina Ponce Dawson, presented the agenda and reminded the General Assembly about the resolutions approved by the 33rd General Assembly.

- The agenda was approved.
- The minutes from the 33rd IUPAP General Assembly were approved. Later in the proceedings, Resolution 1 from the 33rd GA was slightly modified to resolve a minor contradiction with regards to the articles.

3. [IUPAP Membership and Development](#)

- Vice President at Large for Membership and Development, Igle Gledhill, declared that IUPAP currently has 52 Territorial Members that are up to date with the payment of their dues and 8 members that have been in arrears for more than three years. No exclusions were to be put this year (members with more than 6 years in arrears).

4. [Reports from Secretariats and news about the status of IUPAP as a Swiss association](#)

- Secretary General, Stefano Fantoni, presented the activities of the administrative office in Trieste.
- Past President, Michel Spiro, presented the activities of the IUPAP Headquarter based in Geneva, an entity formally registered as an association under Swiss law.
 - The renewal of the tax-exempt status, expiring at the end of 2025, is in progress.

5. [IUPAP activity report for the period 7 October 2024 through 27 October 2025](#)

The activity report was presented.

6. [Highlights of 2025 activities and news on International Science Council](#)

Igle Gledhill, Michel Spiro and Silvina Ponce Dawson shared the highlights with the General Assembly. The supporting material is available on Indico.

- [IUPAP GA and International Conference on Physics in 2027](#)
 - i. Following a call, the proposal submitted by the South African Institute of Physics (SAIP), in partnership with the Southern Africa Physics Network (SAPhysNet) representing the Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries, was selected. The next in-person IUPAP General Assembly and the International Conference on Physics (ICP) will then be held in 2027 in South Africa.
- [IUPAP/UNESCO Colloquia Series on Physics for Society](#)

- i. IUPAP partnered up with UNESCO to organize a series of online interactive colloquia on Physics for Society. Five colloquia were held in 2025 with distinguished speakers covering themes related to the International Year of Quantum Science and Technology (IYQ 2025). Christine Darve, Chair of IUPAP WG14, was instrumental in organizing the series which will continue in 2026 covering themes related to the International Decade of Sciences for Sustainable Development (IDSSD).
- o [The International Decade of Sciences for Sustainable Development 2024 - 2033](#) and the [Earth-Humanity Coalition](#)
 - i. IUPAP will stop hosting the Earth-Humanity Coalition by the end of 2025.
- o [ISC matters](#)
 - i. [Marcia Barbosa, first WG5 chair, elected ISC Vice President for Freedom and Responsibility in Science](#)
 - ii. [Sunil Gupta, President Designate, elected as member of the ISC Board for Membership](#)
 - iii. [Letter about visas signed by presidents of over 20 Scientific Unions](#)

The review of the activities was appreciated, but the agenda point did not result in any comments from the delegates.

7. [Resolution to approve decisions made by EC since the last GA + information on other decisions that do not require GA approval](#)

The IUPAP President explained the decisions made by the Executive Council after the previous GA:

- o a) the replacement of Ajith Kumar B.P. by Ambarish Kunwar from India as a regular member of C13, Physics for Development.
- o b) the change in the name of two positions in the Executive Council from Secretary General for Legal and Financial Affairs and Deputy Secretary for Legal and Financial Affairs to Secretary General and Deputy Secretary General, respectively. This involved the approval, at the same time, of slight modifications in the [Articles](#) and [Internal Regulations](#) of the Union required to accommodate these changes.
- o c) the incorporation of SKAO, as IUPAP Corporate Associate Member with 1 unit
- o d) the acceptance of the resignation of Chao Tang (China-Beijing) as secretary (and member) of the Commission on Statistical Physics, C3; the incorporation of Limei Xu (China-Beijing) as regular member of C3 and the appointment of Erika Eiser (UK) as the new secretary of C3

The President also offered the background for other decisions made by Council that do not require the specific approval of the GA:

- o e) the change of the name of the Prize and Medal awarded by the Commission on Astroparticle Physics, C4, to "IUPAP-TIFR-Locus.sh Homi Bhabha Medal and Prize"

- f) signing the Nobel Laureate Assembly Declaration for the Prevention of Nuclear War of July, 2025
- g) the decision to have the next in-person IUPAP GA in 2027 in South Africa together with an International Conference of Physics focused on Physics for a Regenerative Planet
- h) the appointments of Associated Members to Commissions, Working Group members and Chairs, and the decisions on IUPAP representatives on other bodies.

8. [Changes in membership](#)

- New Corporate Associate Member: SKAO with 1 unit
 - i. Already discussed under the previous agenda point.
- New Corporate Associate Member: Innovation Investment Management India Private Ltd with 1 unit
 - i. The EC had not formally discussed this candidacy as the request had just arrived. The incorporation was then put forward directly to the General Assembly. Innovation Investment Management India Private Ltd (IIM) intended to join as a new IUPAP Corporate Associate Member with 1 unit. If approved, the President would go forward and sign the corresponding MoU.

9. [Proposal from the IUPAP Rejuvenation Task Force](#)

- The General Assembly recognized the major effort of the Task Force and took note of the proposal.

10. [Resolutions stemmed from the rejuvenation proposal + Articles and Internal Regulations with the necessary changes tracked](#)

- The President presented the resolutions and the corresponding required changes in the Articles and the Internal Regulations.

11. [Conferences approved for 2026](#)

- The outcome of the discussions held at the EC&CC earlier in the week was presented by Rudzani Nemutudi.

12. [Financial matters](#)

- Boris Sharkov presented the audit-report by Moore Stephens Refidar SA, the accounts for 2025 and a budget outline for the period up to 2027.
- The General Assembly approved the 2024 accounts, and the proposed budget was approved with the following modification: New line "Strategic projects

managed by the EC (10K CHF/year as of 2026)”, no expected income for LAAAMP—line deleted. The revised file is available from [Indico](#).

13. [Vote on resolutions](#)

- [Resolutions approving decisions made by EC since the 33rd GA.](#)
 - i. The 34th IUPAP General Assembly noted the decisions made by the Council after the previous GA and approved them all.
- [Resolutions stemmed from the Rejuvenation Proposal.](#)
 - i. Approved.
 - 1. It should be noted that the EC is expanded with the position of Vice-President at-large for Physics Outside Academia in the IUPAP Executive Council. Christophe Rossel (Switzerland) was elected and will hold this position until new elections are held in 2027.
- [Revision of Resolution 1 approved by the 33rd IUPAP GA in 2024](#)
 - i. Approved.
- [Dissolution of WG19 on QST.](#)
 - i. Approved.
- [Resolution approving the incorporation of IIM as IUPAP CAM with 1 unit.](#)
 - i. Approved.

14. [Henri Abraham Award](#)

- The Henri Abraham Award was given to Maitri Bobba in recognition for distinguished long service to the Union.

15. [Interdisciplinary Early Career Scientist Prize](#)

- The 2024 prize was awarded to Julia Wiktor for her interdisciplinary work at the interface of computational condensed matter physics, semiconductors and materials chemistry provided insights into carrier dynamics, defect energetics, and spectroscopic signatures in complex semiconductors, contributing to development of better materials for solar energy conversion, photocatalysis & water splitting.
- The 2025 prize was awarded to Mattia Serra for his interdisciplinary research combining theoretical physics, fluid dynamics, and biology to develop a predictive framework for coherent structures in fluid flows, with applications ranging from ocean search and rescue to embryonic development, which have been validated by experiments.

16. [IUPAP IYQ2025 Photo Contest](#)

Entries to the contest—an official global event within the 2025 International Year of Quantum Science and Technology—were submitted in two categories:

- i. **Beyond Our Eyes** – featuring images captured through scientific instruments or produced via numerical simulations.
- ii. **At a Glance** – highlighting quantum-related effects and instruments through direct observation.

After careful review, the jury selected the winning photographs for their scientific relevance, artistic quality, and capacity to communicate the fascination of quantum science to a broader audience. These outstanding images not only celebrate the centennial of quantum mechanics but also illustrate how quantum science continues to inspire curiosity, creativity, and innovation worldwide.

Beyond Our Eyes

- 1st place photo : Alexandra Roy, Quantum Bridge: Where Electrons Dance
- 2nd place photo: Magherlly Denisse Daviran Carrasco, Beyond Crystals: The Icosahedral Symmetry of an $\text{Al}_{64}\text{Cu}_{23}\text{Fe}_{13}$ Quasicrystal
- 3rd place photo: Pasquale Ercolano, A microscopic detector toward quantum innovation

At a Glance

- 1st place photo: Vishwesh Tiwari, Star Trails
- 2nd place photo: Yaseera Ismail, Experimental site of the optical ground station of the first quantum satellite link in the Southern Hemisphere at Stellenbosch University
- 3rd place photo: Morty Fangilio, Trapped Ions.

17. Closing and Final Words

The President thanked all for the participation and contributions and closed the GA.