

IUPAP and conflicts

IUPAP, since its outset hundred years ago, has defended the position that no scientists should be bared from participating in conferences or events on the basis of their nationality or their affiliation. This position is clearly reflected in Article 3 <https://iupap.org/documents/statutes-bylaws/articles/> in the Articles of Association (latest adopted by the General Assembly on 22 October 2021). The text says (without the underlines/bold, those I have permitted to add for the purpose of this email):

"The purpose of IUPAP is to assist in the worldwide development of physics, to foster **international cooperation** in physics, ..."

"IUPAP carries out its Purpose by **sponsoring international meetings**;; upholding openness, honesty and integrity in the practice, application and promotion of physics; **supporting the free circulation of scientists**; ..."

To overcome sanctions against our Russian and Belorussian colleagues, IUPAP—at its last General Assembly (July 2022)—approved the possibility for anyone not actively supporting war and are committed to democratic principles for resolving disagreements and conflicts to use IUPAP as their affiliation when participating at conferences https://iupap.org/wpcontent/uploads/2022/07/use_iupap_affiliation_at_conferences.pdf.

So IUPAP sticks to its principled position, which is that no scientists should be bared from participating in any IUPAP-Supported Conference or event on the basis of their nationality or affiliation, and that any event where this position is rejected, including rejection of mechanisms that we have formulated to diffuse simmering tensions arising from geo-political conflicts, should not enjoy IUPAP support.

We hope that all colleagues will adhere to the IUPAP position and in that way contribute to foster international cooperation. We will be ready to assist anyone if he opts for using the IUPAP-affiliation for colleagues affiliated to Russian or Belorussian institutes.

We are ready to extend this mechanism to schools (JINR – CERN schools) and even to collaborations with adapted schemes (the large collaborations at LHC have been inspired by that for the authors list of their papers).

Michel Spiro, President IUPAP and Jens Vigen, Secretary General IUPAP