The International Gas Union (IGU) was founded in 1931. It is a worldwide non-profit organisation registered in Vevey, Switzerland with the Secretariat currently located in Oslo, Norway.

The role of IGU is to advocate gas as an integral part of a sustainable global energy system, and to promote the political, technical and economic progress of the gas industry.

The more than 140 members of IGU are associations and corporations of the gas industry representing over 97% of the global gas market. The working organisation of IGU covers the complete gas value chain.

IGU encourages international trade in gas by supporting non-discriminatory policies and sound contracting principles and practices. It promotes the development of technologies which add to the environmental benefits of gas and further enhance its safe production, transmission, distribution and utilisation.

Our Vision
As the global voice of gas, IGU seeks to improve the quality of life by advancing gas as a key contributor to a sustainable energy future.

Our Mission
• IGU is the key and credible advocate of political, technical and economic progress of the global gas industry, directly and through its members and in collaboration with other multilateral organisations.
• IGU works to improve the competitiveness of gas in the world energy markets by promoting transparency, public acceptance efforts and the removal of supply and market access barriers.
• IGU seeks to collaborate with governmental agencies and multilateral organizations to demonstrate the economic, social and environmental benefits of gas in the global energy mix.
• IGU supports and facilitates the development of new technologies and best practices, while emphasizing sound environmental performance, safety, reliability and efficiency across the entire value chain.
• IGU maximises the value of its services to members and other stakeholders.
IGU Membership Benefits

Networking and professional development:
• offers easy contacts to gas specialists and useful business contacts worldwide
• creates meeting places for gas professionals
• provides a unique international forum for personal and professional development

Promotion and marketing:
• ensures top class contacts with companies and organisations
• influences the way that gas is promoted in different parts of the world
• is attractive for companies seeking an international arena

Exchange of information:
• offers latest knowledge about technological and regulatory developments in the gas sector in different parts of the world through IGU publications, the IGU website and participation in IGU committees.

IGU also provides a well-established channel for cooperation with other international organisations and institutions.

Charter Members
The gas industry of a country is represented in IGU by one Charter member considered to be the most representative gas entity of the country concerned.

More than 90 countries, including the most important gas producing and consuming countries, are Charter members of IGU.

Associate Members
Companies with physical or commercial assets related to the gas value chain or having an interest in advancing the global gas industry.

The latest list of IGU Charter and Associate members can be found on the IGU website:

www.igu.org/about-igu
The Council is the main ruling body of IGU, convening at least once a year.

The Executive Committee and the IGU Management Team govern IGU in accordance with the directives from the Council and with the Union’s Vision and Mission.

The President of IGU is elected by the Council for a three-year period and is responsible for the organisation of the World Gas Conference which is undertaken by the Charter member to which the President belongs.

The Secretary General is elected from a Charter member and shall be appointed for a minimum of six years. The headquarters of IGU shall be at the office of the Secretary General.
The work of the IGU Programme Committees and in the Task Forces, as described in the Triennial Work Programme, is managed and coordinated by the Coordination Committee. It is the main body behind the preparation of the programme for the next World Gas Conference.

The IGU Committees report to the Coordination Committee, which in turn liaises with the Secretary General in matters of principle, general policy or on issues of special importance to the Union. The results of the work carried out in IGU Committees are communicated to the members and, in specific cases are published in accordance with IGU publication policy.

The results of the work in each committee are presented by the World Gas Conference, which is convened by the IGU every three years.

More than 1000 international experts are members in the IGU committees.

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### COMMITTEES

**DISTRIBUTION**

Chair
José Maria Almacellas
SPAIN

**EXPLORATION & PRODUCTION**

Chair
Redhani A. Rahman
MALAYSIA

**GAS MARKETS**

Chair
Reda Bouchair
ALGERIA

**LNG**

Chair
Shuzo Maeda
JAPAN

**MARKETING & COMMUNICATION**

Chair
Barbara Jinks
AUSTRALIA

**R&D AND INNOVATION**

Chair
Gerald Linke
GERMANY

**STORAGE**

Chair
Nikita Barsuk
RUSSIA

**STRATEGY**

Chair
Ulco Vermeulen
THE NETHERLANDS

**SUSTAINABILITY**

Chair
Maria Gabriela Roselíó
ARGENTINA

**TRANSMISSION**

Chair
Martin Slaby
CZECH REPUBLIC

**UTILISATION**

Chair
Mohammad R. Ghodsizadeh
IRAN

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### TASK FORCES

#### STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH

Chair
Alex Burnett
USA

#### WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Chair
Reham Ahmed
EGYPT
The dynamics of the global energy development pose a challenge and impose a responsibility for defining the present and future roles for natural gas. This reinforces the need for the IGU with regard to its members and the international community, to facilitate the promotion of knowledge, information exchange, and the preparation of solid and specific reference tools for decision makers.

The World Gas Conference unites the industry from all over the world and presents its findings through discussion and sharing of the latest technologies and current strategies for the continued growth and development of gas as the fuel of choice. In this respect, the World Gas Conference is the most important global event of the gas industry. IGU is the owner of World Gas Conference and arranges the conference every third year.

In June 2015, USA assumed the IGU Presidency for the 2015-2018 triennium. Washington D.C will host the 27th World Gas Conference in June 2018. The theme of the triennium leading up to the 27th World Gas Conference is “Fueling the Future”, and the Triennial Work Programme 2015-2018 will work to ensure that IGU is a more effective voice to promote natural gas around the world. Three strategic focuses have been identified for the triennium: Access, Markets and Social License.

For the 2018-2021 triennium, the Republic of Korea has been elected to assume the IGU Presidency 2015-2018 and to host the 28th World Gas Conference in Daegu in June 2021.
Other IGU Flagship Conferences

IGU Research Conference (IGRC)
The global gas industry must continue and strengthen past investment trends in research and development to meet world expectations in terms of energy efficiency and environmental sustainability.

Technological success must be nurtured through research and development focused on basic science, as well as on technological breakthroughs. A clear link to market needs is decisive for the interest of the industry.

IGRC provides an excellent opportunity for interactions among delegates from various institutions worldwide which have gas research in common or benefit from the results.

The most recent IGRC was organized in Copenhagen, Denmark in 2014. The proceedings are now available on www.igu.org. On the same web page, proceedings from earlier conferences may also be found.

The next IGRC will take place in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 2017.

The LNG Exhibition and Conference
Together with the Gas Technology Institute and the International Institute of Refrigeration, IGU organises the LNG Exhibition and Conference which takes place every three years. It is the largest event in the world dedicated to the LNG industry and it is the only LNG event organised by the industry, for the industry.

The 17th International Conference and Exhibition on Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG 17) took place in Houston, Texas, USA April 16-19, 2013, and attracted more than 5,000 delegates and 200 exhibitors. Further details can be found at www.lng17.org.

LNG 18 will take place 12-15 April 2016 in Perth, Australia (www.lng18.org) while LNG 19 will take place in Shanghai, China in April 2019.
IGU seeks to balance global environmental concerns with global energy demand.
Mitigation of Climate Change

Natural Gas - Part of the Solution

The energy industry finds itself at the intersection of the most pressing dual challenge: to strike the balance between economic development and climate change. Being the most environmentally friendly fossil fuel, natural gas will make a major contribution towards a sustainable energy future.

By focusing on important short and long term aspects of the use of natural gas, the IGU objectives are to make the policy makers aware of the advantages natural gas can offer. Through cooperation agreements with organisations like G20, World Bank, UNECE, UNEP, UNESCO and many others, IGU are advocating for gas and it’s role as part of a long term sustainable energy solution.

Facts and Figures

The use of natural gas results in fewer environmental impacts than other fossil fuels:

- gas is ideal in combination with renewables.
- when burned, it releases up to 50% less CO₂ than coal and 20-30% less than oil
- vehicles powered by natural gas produce 20-30% less CO₂ emissions than vehicles powered by petrol
- on-going technology developments aim at enabling the capture and storage of CO₂ (CCS)
- the increased use of natural gas offers a significant contribution to improved local air quality and public health
- combined heat and power (CHP) installations enable the utilisation of more than 80% of the energy content in gas.
Ministerial Gas Forum
Enhancing the energy dialogue

The IEF-IGU Ministerial Gas Forum is organised jointly by International Energy Forum (IEF) and IGU, and has become an important arena for promoting the global dialogue at the highest level between policy-makers and the gas industry. The biannual forum enjoys the participation of ministers and delegates from gas producing and consuming countries, executives from the gas industry, and senior officials from governments and international organisations.

The first IEF-IGU Ministerial Gas Forum took place in 2008 in Vienna, Austria. The next ones were held in Qatar in 2010 and Paris in 2012. Sustainability, the energy future and the role of gas have been recurrent themes.

The fourth Ministerial Gas Forum was hosted by the Mexican government 11-12 November 2014 under the headline “The Role of Gas in Energy Security and Sustainable Economic Development”.

IGU and IEF will continue to organise Ministerial Gas Forums in order to create meeting arenas that enhance the dialogue between the authorities and the key industrial players.
IGU will, on a worldwide basis, continue to act as an effective interface between the industry and governments - promoting natural gas as part of a sustainable energy future.

Publications

IGU offers a selection of various gas related publications. They can be found on the IGU website under Resources & Data/Publications. Selected hardcopies are available on request from the IGU Secretariat.
IGU
The International Gas Union (IGU), founded in 1931, is a worldwide non-profit organisation promoting the political, technical and economic progress of the gas industry with the mission to advocate gas as an integral part of a sustainable global energy system. The members are national associations and corporations of the gas industry. The working organisation of IGU covers the complete value chain of the gas industry upstream to downstream. For more information please visit www.igu.org.

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