



FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DE L'ART PHOTOGRAPHIQUE

The International Federation of Photographic Art

FIAP 10th General Assembly

Yerevan, Armenia, October 28, 2023

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

Mr. President, members of the Board, dear Liaison Officers, dear Delegates

In 2022, after two years of pandemic, we found our normal rhythm again and held the General Assembly in Spain. This year we are in a new area of the planet for the first time. We really hope that all the delegates will admire the beautiful landscape and hospitable people of Armenia and once they return home, they will have only the best words to describe their stay here and the best photos to promote this land.

In the last year we have had some new operational members and ILFIAPs. We also had some cancellations due to non-payment of their annual fees. This is something that can happen from time to time and is usually due to internal financial or other problems of these members. In our experience, most of them return to FIAP after a short time, something that proves that they miss our family.

In the Biennale Service, we have made two important decisions: From 2025, the age of participation in the Youth Biennales will increase from 21 to 25 years. There will therefore be one under 16 and one under 25 category, hoping that this decision will promote more people taking part in this important event. The second, at the request of all Association Officers, was the return of the ability to count some accepted images at FIAP Biennales for FIAP Distinctions applications.

As in the previous year, this year was also very successful for the FIAP Distinctions. The growing number of salons and awards around the world is leading many participants and liaison officers to consider amending the rules for awards, as they believe that the quality of accepted images has decreased. On the other hand, it is true that the actual rules can always be improved in some places, thus making them more efficient and fairer.

The FIAP Artistic Patrimony is a real cultural treasure to be exploited by our members. Although the number of images selected for the Cloud increases every year, most of our members do not know or have not tried the possibility that FIAP offers to lend them for a digital or printed exhibition in their countries' venues.

In 2022 we had around 100 more FIAP salons under FIAP patronage than in 2021 and many FIAP events FIAP auspices, which proves the importance and recognition of FIAP worldwide.

During the past year, our Audiovisual Service has created a new series on Macro Photography and offered its valuable support to FEC or other FIAP event organizers but also to individual creators interested in this special photography archive.

FIAP News has become a very important tool for distributing FIAP activities and news of our affiliated members around the world. More and more people are interested in this e-magazine even if they are not part of the FIAP family. As with any magazine, its success depends on two factors, reliability, and material. The former is guaranteed, as each new issue is published on set dates, quarterly. The second is up to us, as we expect our members to submit articles for future issues.

In 2022, new FIAP exhibition centers were opened around the world. The total number today is 26 centers, and some more are expected to open in the coming months.

The FIAP Club World Cup is becoming more and more famous among various clubs and ILFIAPs. Some of the participating clubs are applying to become ILFIAP. In this way the FIAP World Cup becomes a tool to attract new local members and new writers in our big family.

In the field of Ethics we have had a continuous and effective cooperation with PSA, as we believe that the adaptation of the common rules and the same interpretation of the rules will limit as much as possible plagiarism or manipulation where prohibited.

Considering the FIAP promotion, we are very happy to realize that China is taking a renewed interest more and more in FIAP issues. New projects are planned, and we strongly believe that the next year will be very important for the cooperation and development of our activities in China, where the projects of more than 2 million photographers remain unknown to us.

Regarding FIAP Photographers' Cards, there are still some problems due to the postal services of the World. we are trying to find the best possible solution and hope that they will soon be solved.

Our website is stable and very functional. Much data has been added or updated. The same applies to our social media presence, where a lot of information about FIAP is uploaded every day. It is also very important to mention the technical advice provided by this Service on IT maintenance and upgrade issues.

The data protection service has cooperated with the organizer of the FIAP Photo meeting and the FIAP Congress to implement the rules required by law regarding the personal data of the participants of these events. It also works with patronage service and web service to upgrade our fiap.net platform. At the same time, it followed the process of recognizing the FIAP logo worldwide, as some countries require a second step before official recognition a fact that requires close cooperation with local legal advisors.

The FIAP Photo Academy online events hosted new presentations from leading global Masters of Photography. More and more people discover FIAP through this very important channel and become new members.

Asturias in Spain had the opportunity to host both the Conference and the Photo Meeting. It was a difficult undertaking, but everyone must admit that both events were very successful and ended with hundreds of wonderful pictures and most importantly unforgettable memories and new friends!

I wish you a good and successful General Assembly and I look forward to meeting you again in India next fall!

Ioannis