

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM



Please complete this form in English and **answer all the questions**. All documents you attach in other languages should be accompanied by an English translation.
Deadline for applications: **16 January 2026**

A. ELIGIBILITY

The IPA has five categories of membership—please refer to the document **Membership Eligibility Criteria** on the IPA website. This form should only be used by organisations applying for Full, Provisional or Associate Membership. The IPA reserves the right to allocate the appropriate category for your association.

1. Is your association a national publishers association? Yes ☐ No ☐
1.1 If so, which country's publishers do you represent?
2. Is your association a regional publishers association? Yes ☐ No ☐
2.1 If so, which region's publishers do you represent?
3. Is your association a specialist publishers association? Yes ☐ No ☐
3.1 If so, what kind of publishers do you represent?
4. If you are none of the above or if you want to apply for Extraordinary or Patron Membership, please contact the IPA Secretariat at borie@internationalpublishers.org or +41 22 336 20 55

B. YOUR ASSOCIATION

1. Name (in original language):
English translation:
2. Office/street address:
3. Mailing address (if different):
4. Email: 5. Telephone:
6. Website:
7. Name of person completing this application:
7.1 Email: 7.2 Telephone:
8. When was your association founded?
9. Please provide a brief description of your organization. (100 words max.)
.....
10. Please provide a short statement outlining your reasons for wanting to be an IPA member (150 words max.)
.....

11. Do any other associations represent book publishers in your country? Yes ☐ No ☐
If so, please provide their names and contact details and explain how they differ from your association.

[Attachment 1]

[*https://internationalpublishers.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/IPA-Membership-Eligibility-Criteria-2023.pdf](https://internationalpublishers.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/IPA-Membership-Eligibility-Criteria-2023.pdf)

12. Name of your association's Chair/President:
- 12.1 Their publishing house/affiliation:
- 12.2 Email: 12.3 Telephone:
13. Name of your association's CEO:
- 13.1 Email: 13.2 Telephone:

C. YOUR ASSOCIATION'S ACTIVITIES

As set out in our Statutes, these are the main Objects of the IPA:

- to uphold and defend the right of publishers to publish and distribute the works of the mind in complete freedom, provided that in so doing they respect all legal rights attached to these works within their own countries and internationally. It is the duty of the Association to oppose steadfastly any attempt or threat to restrict that freedom;
- to promote and protect by all lawful means the principles of copyright on which depend the encouragement of authorship, publishing and dissemination of creative works and to defend copyright against all infringements which may restrict the rights of authors and publishers;
- to promote literacy;
- to promote and represent publishing as a cultural sector and a creative industry.

In this section of the application, you must explain how your recent activities and the policies or strategies that govern your association coincide with the IPA's Objects, and how your association would reinforce the IPA's Objects if your application were successful. **This is the most important part of your application, so please consider your answers carefully.**

Association's Activities

In the past three years, please identify what your association has done in the four areas listed below. If possible please provide links, references or scanned copies of third-party coverage or mentions of your association's activities, such as news articles.

1a. Promoting and upholding the freedom to publish. In your country are there factors that restrict the freedom of expression or freedom to publish, of publishers, authors, journalists, artists, bloggers, social media users, or political commentators? How does your association defend, promote or strengthen freedom of expression or freedom to publish within your country? Examples: lobbying to change laws limiting freedom of expression, condemning persecution or wrongful prosecution of publishers or writers, raising awareness of the importance of freedom of expression and freedom to publish. **Please attach copies of documents illustrating these activities.**

[Attachment 2]

1b. In the absence of current freedom to publish challenges in your country, are you ready to defend the freedom to publish in your country in the future or in other parts of the world?

Yes No

2. Promoting copyright. Please describe the commitment of your association to promoting a strong and viable copyright framework that incentivizes publishers to invest in, promote, and disseminate knowledge and creative content. Do you currently engage with your government on legislation, regulations, or judicial proceedings that would either advance or harm publishing? Do you educate policy makers and/or the public about copyright, including its essential role in fostering literature, education, innovation, and modern markets? **Please attach copies of statements or other documents illustrating these activities.**

[Attachment 3]

3. Promoting literacy, books and reading. Examples: collaborating with government, libraries, and educational authorities to promote the benefits of literacy, books and reading.

[Attachment 4]

4. Supporting the publishing industry's contribution to national culture? Examples: promoting the industry's interests to government or the media, participating in international conferences or fairs, collaborating with other creative industry associations, and supporting efforts to preserve tangible cultural heritage, such as manuscripts.

[Attachment 5]

D. GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES

In order to be able to argue for and fearlessly defend the IPA's Objects, IPA members need to maintain a reasonable distance from government control and intervention. The next series of questions are designed to determine the level of government influence on your association.

1. To what extent is your country's government involved in the governance, operations, decision-making or objective-setting of your association (e.g. can the government nominate board members)? Please provide documentation that demonstrates the independence of your association's decision-making process.

[Attachment 6]

2. Over the past three years, has your government implemented any policies supporting the publishing industry and enhancing its contribution to **national culture**?

Yes No

If yes, please provide a short summary of these policies. (max 200 words).

.....

3. Over the past three years, has your government implemented any policies promoting **literacy, books and reading**

Yes No

If yes, please provide a short summary of these policies. (max 200 words).

.....

4. Over the past three years, has your government implemented any **copyright** policies or initiatives that have positively or negatively affected publishers, or failed to comply with international agreements concerning copyright?

Yes No

If yes, please provide a short summary of these policies. (max 200 words).

.....

5. Over the past three years, has your government implemented any policies or taken measures that restrict the **freedom of expression, freedom to publish, or other human rights** of publishers, authors, journalists, artists, bloggers, social media users, or political commentators?

Yes No

If yes, please provide a short summary of these policies. (max 200 words).

.....

E. YOUR SECRETARIAT, BUDGET AND GOVERNANCE

The IPA needs to know that your association is well-governed and financially secure.

1. Please list the key positions in your Secretariat and their responsibilities.

[Attachment 7]

2. What is the annual operating budget of your association?

3a. Does this budget include any government or public sector funding or grants? Yes No

3b. If you answered 'Yes' above, please estimate (in percentage terms) how much of your budget is made up of government/public sector funding or grants? %

3c. And please explain the nature of that government/public sector funding (100 words max).

.....

4. Please provide a copy of the statutes or constitution of your association in its original language as well as an English translation.

[Attachment 8]

5. Please attach a list of the names of the members of your association's board or governing body, including their publishing house/affiliation and their role/position there.

[Attachment 9]

6. Please outline the process by which the President of your Association is selected (e.g. election, appointment). (50 words max.)

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7. What specific articles in your Association's statutes relate to this process? (50 words max.)

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8. Please outline the process by which the Board of your Association is selected (e.g. election, appointment). (50 words max.)

.....

9. What specific articles in your Association's statutes relate to this process? (50 words max.)

.....

10. How many members does your association currently have? Please list them or provide a link.

[Attachment 10]

11. What percentage of your country's total publishing sales, including consumer and government sales, are your members responsible for? If you do not have exact data, please estimate %

12. Please list your country's 5 largest private publishing houses, in terms of revenue, and specify whether they are members of your association.

Publishers with the highest revenue	Member? YES/NO
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	

13. What organizations qualify to join your association (i.e. only publishers or non-publishers as well)? (100 words max.)

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14. Please list and describe your association's working committees, (e.g. Copyright Committee, Freedom to Publish Committee, Educational Publishers Committee, etc).

[Attachment 11]

F. YOUR NATIONAL PUBLISHING INDUSTRY

The IPA needs to know the size and structure of your country's publishing industry.

1. How many publishers operate in your country? Where no official data are available, please estimate:

Links or references:

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2. What is the market value (in local currency) of your national book publishing industry, per annum? Where no official data are available, please estimate:

Trade books	
Education textbooks / resources	
Other (specify)	
TOTAL	

Links or references:

.....

3. Considering the education sector figure above, what percentage of these sales is attributable to government spending (local, provincial and national)? %

4. Please list any state-owned publishers that are members of your association.

[Attachment 12]

5. On average, how many new titles and new editions are published in your country annually? Please provide links or references to sources. Where no official data are available, please estimate.

Total new titles published annually?	
Percentage of these titles published by government or state-owned publishing houses?	%
Percentage of these titles published by private sector publishing houses?	%

Links or references:

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G. THE VALUE OF THE IPA FOR YOUR ASSOCIATION

The IPA needs to know how we can best help your association.

The IPA is the voice of world publishing. We promote and protect copyright, freedom to publish, literacy and accessibility around the world. We advocate for the social, cultural, financial and political benefits of a free, competitive publishing ecosystem. In Geneva, we speak for publishers at the World Intellectual Property Organization, the World Trade Organization, at the UN Human Rights Council and other supranational bodies. We also intervene at regional and national levels when the common values of publishers are threatened, especially copyright and freedom to publish. A key benefit of IPA membership is also access to and solidarity with the collective expertise of our members.

1. How can the IPA best support your Association in achieving its objectives? Please rate the following activities from 1 (require no support) to 5 (require significant support).

- ☐ International lobbying in the field of copyright at WIPO and other fora
- ☐ Assistance in lobbying for a national legal framework for copyright protection and enforcement
- ☐ Support for national campaigns to highlight the importance of intellectual property rights
- ☐ International lobbying in the field of freedom to publish
- ☐ Assistance in lobbying your national government on issues related to freedom to publish
- ☐ Assistance in addressing issues related to book piracy
- ☐ Facilitating access to assistance to enhance national publishing industry policies
- ☐ Support for your association's activities to promote literacy
- ☐ Production of market data and intelligence on the international publishing market
- ☐ Support in developing market data and intelligence on your national publishing market
- ☐ Other (Please specify):

H. REFERENCES

Please provide the name and contact details of three people from the **international publishing community** (not from your local publishing community) who are familiar with your association and/or individual publishing members of your association. Please note: the IPA Membership Committee may contact these people to obtain additional information on your association and its activities.

Name: Email:

Company/organization: Phone:.....

Name: Email:

Company/organization: Phone:.....

Name: Email:

Company/organization: Phone:.....

I. DECLARATION

By signing and submitting this application form, the applicant declares that their association supports the objects of the International Publishers Association, as set out in Article 2 of the IPA Statutes, undertakes to comply with the obligations of IPA membership, and to promptly inform the IPA Secretariat of any change in the association's governance (including contact details of key officers).

J. SIGNATURES

Association Chair/President

DATE

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Association Executive Director/Secretary General

DATE

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