

## IFAC Distinguished Lecturer Committee Update

The IFAC Distinguished Lecturer Program was established in 2020. This program provides for the appointment of eight Pawel J. Nowacki Distinguished Lecturers for each triennium. The aim of the program is for IFAC to enable researchers working in developing countries to hear lectures from the top researchers in our field.

The eight Pawel J Nowacki Distinguished Lecturers for 2020-2023 are

Hideaki Ishii (JP)  
Mustafa Khammash (CH)  
Na Li (US)  
Kirsten Morris (CA)  
Bruno Siciliano (IT)  
Lucy Pao (US)  
Eduardo Sontag (US)  
Feiyue Wang (CN)

The eight IFAC Distinguished Lecturers for 2023-2026:

Marija Ilic (US)  
Mihoko Niitsuma (JP)  
Sophie Tarbouriech (FR)  
Lei Guo (CN)  
Hyungbo Shim (KR)  
Geoff Chase (NZ)  
Alexandre Dolgui (FR)  
Larry Stapleton (IE)

The lecturers serve a term of one triennium during which time they are expected to give at least one lecture. As during the 2020-2023 triennium no lecture took place due to COVID-19 travel restrictions, they will serve for another term. During the current triennium, two lectures were given by Lucy Pao in South Africa in November 2023, at the University of Pretoria and Stellenbosch University. In addition Lucy presented a plenary lecture in March at the ACODS conference in India.

The lectures must be given in a developing country, potentially in conjunction with a local conference. IFAC provides a contribution towards the travel expenses for each lecture. Potential hosts of distinguished lectures in developing countries are encouraged to contact the lecturers directly about the possibility of hosting a lecture.

If you are an conference organizer in a developing country, you have the possibility of hosting an IFAC Distinguished Lecturer which will be

at least partially funded by IFAC. For further information, please contact the committee chair, Hideaki Ishii.

### Short Bio of Hideaki Ishii

Hideaki Ishii received the M.Eng. degree from Kyoto University, Japan, in 1998, and the Ph.D. degree from the University of Toronto in 2002. He was a Postdoctoral Research Associate at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 2001-2004, and a Research Associate at The University of Tokyo in 2004-2007. He was an Associate Professor and then a Professor at the Department of Computer Science, Tokyo Institute of Technology in 2007-2024. Currently, he is a Professor at the Department of Information Physics and Computing, The University of Tokyo, Japan.



Hideaki was a Humboldt Research Fellow at the University of Stuttgart in 2014-2015. He has also held visiting positions at CNR-IEIT at the Politecnico di Torino, the Technical University of Berlin, and the City University of Hong Kong. His research interests include networked control systems, multiagent systems, distributed algorithms, and cyber-security of control systems.

Hideaki has served as an Associate Editor for *Automatica*, the *IEEE Control Systems Letters*, the *IEEE Transactions on Automatic Control*, the *IEEE Transactions on Control of Network Systems*, and the *Mathematics of Control, Signals, and Systems*. He was a Vice President for the IEEE Control Systems Society (CSS) in 2022-2023 and an elected member of the IEEE CSS Board of Governors in 2014-2016.

In addition Hideaki was the chair of the IFAC Coordinating Committee (CC) on Systems and Signals in 2017-2023 and the chair of the IFAC Technical Committee (TC) on Networked Systems for 2011-2017. He served as the IPC Chair

## No.2

April 2024

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### The IFAC Journals

**Automatica**  
[journals.elsevier.com/automatica](http://journals.elsevier.com/automatica)

**Control Engineering Practice**  
[journals.elsevier.com/control-engineering-practice](http://journals.elsevier.com/control-engineering-practice)

**Engineering Applications of Artificial Intelligence**  
[journals.elsevier.com/engineering-applications-of-artificial-intelligence](http://journals.elsevier.com/engineering-applications-of-artificial-intelligence)

**Journal of Process Control**  
[journals.elsevier.com/journal-of-process-control](http://journals.elsevier.com/journal-of-process-control)

**Annual Reviews in Control**  
[journals.elsevier.com/annual-reviews-in-control](http://journals.elsevier.com/annual-reviews-in-control)

**Journal on Mechatronics**  
[journals.elsevier.com/mechatronics](http://journals.elsevier.com/mechatronics)

**Nonlinear Analysis: Hybrid Systems**  
[journals.elsevier.com/nonlinear-analysis-hybrid-systems](http://journals.elsevier.com/nonlinear-analysis-hybrid-systems)

**IFAC Journal of Systems & Control**  
[journals.elsevier.com/ifac-journal-of-systems-and-control](http://journals.elsevier.com/ifac-journal-of-systems-and-control)

**IFAC-PapersOnLine**  
[journals.elsevier.com/ifac-papersonline](http://journals.elsevier.com/ifac-papersonline)

for the IFAC World Congress 2023 held in Yokohama, Japan. He received the IEEE Control Systems Magazine Outstanding Paper Award in 2015 and is an IEEE Fellow.

## IFAC Girls in Control Update

Attracting a more diverse audience to STEM, and in particular to control is an ongoing challenge and remains a high priority for many in the IFAC community. While in some countries the number of female students in (control) engineering is slowly increasing, the numbers for engineering students in general are stagnating or even falling in many places, for example in western countries. This comes at a bad time as we see many pressing challenges such as climate change and environmental issues that are related to technical aspects – both in terms of contributing to them as well as possible ways out.

Hence, reaching out and attracting more students to STEM and in our case control engineering is still of utmost importance. Fortunately, as the corona pandemic is finally over and universities, schools and most workplaces have gone back to on site teaching again, the need for online workshops as the almost only means to reach out has ceased.

Luckily, the material developed for Girls in Control (sponsored by the IFAC Foundation) workshops can also easily be used for onsite workshops and mixed groups (including all genders) as demonstrated in some workshops for example in Germany and we added a version in Romanian, which is now available on the IFAC website next to the already existing versions in English, French, German, Italian, Norwegian, Portuguese, Swedish, Japanese, and Russian. Material already exists for a number of other languages (available upon request) and, of course, any additional languages will be much appreciated!

We would also like to take this opportunity to encourage all IFAC affiliates to continue and intensify their outreach activities, for example by running GiC workshops. As always, feel free to reach out to us in case you'd like to know more or get some support to prepare or run outreach activities for kids in the range between 9 and 15 years old.

Submitted by: Steffi Knorn (DE), IFAC Council member ex-officio 2023-2026, Girls in Control

### IFAC is on social media!

**Facebook**  
[facebook.com/groups/632582025190533](https://facebook.com/groups/632582025190533)

**LinkedIn**  
[linkedin.com/groups/13400016/](https://linkedin.com/groups/13400016/)

**X (formerly Twitter)**  
[twitter.com/IFAC\\_Control](https://twitter.com/IFAC_Control)

**YouTube**  
[www.youtube.com/@ifacyoutube3132](https://www.youtube.com/@ifacyoutube3132)

## Transition: Peter Kopacek

Prof. Dr. Dr. hc. mult. Peter Kopacek (who served IFAC and the control community over many decades and as the Austrian NMO representative) was born on October 31, 1939 in Vienna. He completed his mechanical engineering studies at the Vienna University of Technology in 1966 and received his doctorate in control engineering (cum laude) in 1971. In 1986 he was appointed professor of automation and systems engineering at the Johannes Kepler University in Linz. Four years later, in 1990, he returned to the Vienna University of Technology and was appointed professor and head of the Institute for Handling Devices and Robotics.



From 1989 to 1995, as scientific director of the "Lower Austrian County Academy", he built up what is now the Danube University in Krems. In 1993, the "Austrian Society for System and Automation Technology (SAT)" emerged from the department for systems and automation technology at this Academy and of which he served as president until shortly before his death. Peter Kopacek has published ten books as an author or co-author and more than 350 scientific publications.

Peter Kopacek received three honorary doctorates, was corresponding member of the Saxon Academy of Sciences in Leipzig and the German Academy of Engineering Sciences (ACAT-ECH) and member of the executive board of the International Federation of Robotics (IFR). One of the highlights of his career was receiving the "Engelberger Robotics Award" in 2006, the highest award in the international robotics research scene.

For Peter Kopacek, international networking has always been a very important part of his professional life. He played a leading role in

### The IFAC Conference App is available!

The App is paid for by IFAC and can be used free of charge by IFAC conference organizers and attendees.

How to download:  
App Store [apple.co/3mpaER7](https://apple.co/3mpaER7)  
Google Play [bit.ly/3lazFjx](https://bit.ly/3lazFjx)  
Web version [ifac.floq.live](https://ifac.floq.live)

You can also search for 'IFAC' in the Apple App Store or in the Google Play Store.

New! Log in is shared with the IFAC Affiliates Portal. There is no need for double registration.

### From the IFAC President

Dear IFAC Friends and Colleagues,

In this edition, I will describe the new Associated Member Organization (AMO) status of the IFAC organization. IFAC is a multinational federation of National Member Organizations (NMOs). Each NMO represents the engineering and scientific societies concerned with automatic control in its own country or region. NMOs pay membership fees and have membership rights and obligations. Unfortunately, economic situations in some regions of the world make it difficult for some colleagues to establish an ordinary IFAC status. To enhance opportunities for international collaboration within IFAC, the AMO category was recently introduced.

AMOs are not required to pay membership fees and do not access membership rights, yet they can benefit of mentorship and assistance from IFAC colleagues and can gradually access more international visibility. AMOs should consist of well-defined groups of engineers and scientists actively engaged in the field of automatic control from a particular country or region where no NMO exists. Unlike NMOs, there can be more than one AMO representing a country or region. AMOs can receive official guest status at the IFAC General Assembly, the supreme body of the Federation. They can apply for the Distinguished Lecturer Program [ifac-control.org/areas/ifac-distinguished-lecturer-program](https://ifac-control.org/areas/ifac-distinguished-lecturer-program). They can apply for financial support for academic and educational activities through the IFAC Activity Fund [ifac-control.org/areas/activity-fund](https://ifac-control.org/areas/activity-fund).

Any individual can become an IFAC Affiliate, and benefit from the individual services from IFAC. AMOs are expected to promote the free IFAC Affiliation in their country or region and thereby accompany their colleagues to serve on one of the thirty-nine IFAC Technical Committees (TCs), and to become eligible to receive various IFAC Awards [ifac-control.org/awards](https://ifac-control.org/awards).

As of this writing, there are 4 AMOs from Cuba, Malaysia, Morocco and Pakistan. I am glad that the new AMO status allows the colleagues from these countries to connect to IFAC even though they could not build or maintain an NMO structure. Applications for AMO status can be submitted at any time to the chair of the Membership Committee (currently Hajime Asama) and to the IFAC Secretariat. More information about AMOs is available at: [ifac-control.org/structure](https://ifac-control.org/structure).

I hope that the AMO program will further strengthen IFAC's mission of providing a platform to promote the science and technology of automatic control, enriching global society. I extend a warm welcome to our new AMOs, and I hope that many more organizations will join IFAC as both NMOs and AMOs.

With best regards,

Dongil "Dan" Cho, IFAC President 2023-26

establishing the annual workshops “Robotics in Alpe-Adria-Danube Region” (RAAD) and has also organized these workshops several times in Austria. It was also on his initiative that the “Austrian Automation Day” was created, an event that over time has also offered a platform for presenting Austrian automation technology as a bilateral meeting in many regions of the world. In total, as IPC Chair, he has – very often under the auspices of IFAC - organized more than 40 international scientific conferences in Austria and abroad.

The numerous cooperation projects with industry in the field of robotics and production automation with a focus on semi-automated assembly and disassembly and the associated strengthening of Austria as a scientific and industrial hub, were also very important to Peter Kopacek. In 1995, on his initiative, the so called Engineering Management Program was implemented, a postgraduate course in cooperation between Vienna University of Technology and Oakland University in Michigan (US), which he accompanied as program director.

Peter Kopacek was the Austrian delegate to the IFAC General Assembly for many years. He was also very successful to improve Austria's visibility in the international research community of robotics and automation as part of IFAC: Since March 1985 he was Chief Executive of the Austrian IFAC Advisory Council and from 2002 Vice President and Secretary General of OeGART (Austrian Society for Automation and Robotics), which represents Austria as an NMO of IFAC. As part of these numerous functions, he always enabled young researchers to participate in international R&D networks at the very beginning of their careers. Remarkable was also his strong commitment to investigate the interactions between technology and society, especially during his long chairmanship in the IFAC Technical Committee TC 9.5 “Technology, Culture and International Stability (TECIS)”.

In addition to his scientific work, Kopacek was always keen to make robotics and automation technology accessible to the general public. This is how he managed to carry the robot football trend that started in Korea to Austria and all of Europe. His team at the Vienna University of Technology was able to achieve European and world championship titles over several years. At the end of June 2009, Kopacek presented the concept of an affordable, human-like robot, which was introduced as “Archie, the robot with Viennese roots”.

In more than 30 years of professional life, Kopacek has shaped robotics technology not only in Austria, but also in Europe and many other parts of the world. Many of his former assistants and his students are now working successfully as technicians, professors, scientists or entrepreneurs in various areas of robotics and thus embody a lasting legacy of his work.

Peter Kopacek died on 2 March 2024 at the age of 85. We remember him with respect and great gratitude. He will never be forgotten!

Obituary submitted by: Stefan Jakubek (AT, Vienna University of Technology) & Nor-

bert Rozsenich (AT, OeGART/Austrian IFAC NMO). The writers submitted the © Hermann Bodenseher, TU Wien photo.

Peter Kopacek was involved in IFAC over the course of many years and was beloved in Austria and abroad. Here are some more words from the international community about his life and legacy.

“Professor Peter Kopacek was an inspirational leader whose contribution is difficult to capture in a few short paragraphs. His impact was “behind the scenes” as well as in the more obvious activities in IFAC and beyond. His outstanding leadership in IFAC includes the establishment and nurturing of technical committees across a number of disciplines (including mechatronics and social systems). A career highlight on the international stage includes founding the TECIS (formerly SWIIS) technical committee (TC 9.5) in the early 1980s, overseeing its growth into one of the largest TCs in IFAC. This is particularly remarkable given the interdisciplinary scope of the work which required technical leadership across a wide range of academic domains including robotics and AI (e.g. automatic land-mine clearance), ethics (e.g. robo-ethics), mechatronics (e.g. innovation in mechatronics education), environmental science (e.g. “end-of-life” systems engineering and cost-oriented applications of control).

International stability, automation and control were not just academic pursuits for Peter, but central to his contribution to our global society. I was fortunate enough to partner with him in European funded initiatives to build capacity in the Western Balkans following the Yugoslav conflict, working with local leaders and most especially Edmond Hajrizi and his team. Through these and other initiatives not only did Kosovo become a national member of IFAC, but a new university was born with quality and excellence as key values and drivers.

Few have shown such dedication to the values of IFAC, working tirelessly for over fifty years to promote control and automation as a way of solving pressing challenges facing human existence. His scientific contributions range across IFAC sub-disciplines from space science to mechatronics to energy-efficiency to engineering ethics to engineering education and many other fields. However, his most important contribution (in my view) was his capacity to envision science as a means to build bridges across communities, extending our IFAC family year-by-year. Peter will be greatly missed by us all, may he rest in peace.”

--Larry Stapleton (IE, Former TC 9.5 chair, former CC 9 chair

“Professor Kopacek will be missed and mourned by all whom he inspired over many decades and across many continents. He helped so many by gently offering a path of progression, and subtly offering support through difficult times, be it political instability and/or personal turmoil.

I met Professor Kopacek in 2016 at a TC 9.5 (TECIS) conference in Durres Albania. He be-

came my Mentor, PhD Supervisor and Colleague up to his passing in March 2024. In just eight short years I developed enormous respect and admiration for this very generous Scholar and Academic. Equality, diversity and inclusion was a very important topic for him and he initiated papers on EDI and Control Engineering with me when it wasn't a popular topic. He enjoyed thinking outside the box and was a diligent, brave and determined Scholar. Peter will be remembered for many decades by TECIS members. We will share great memories of conferences with him that took us to unusual destinations, beside seas of all shades of blue, as we enjoyed a taste of distant cultures whilst sharing our research ideas and aspirations for a better world for all. May he rest now in eternal peace with his life's work completed.”

-Mary Doyle-Kent (IE, Diversity & Inclusion Committee Chair/IFAC Council Ex-officio member)

“Professor Kopacek was not merely an educator; he was a beacon of inspiration and a catalyst for change in the lives of many, including myself. His profound influence altered the trajectory of my life when he graciously accepted me into his program and extended an invitation for a PhD journey that would shape my academic and personal endeavors. He supported the creation of Azerbaijan Robotics and Automation Society alongside with other international institutes, societies, and platforms.

What set Professor Kopacek apart was not just his exceptional intellect and expertise but also his remarkable humility, practicality, and humor. While some may have struggled to grasp his principles and wit, many of us found them to be nothing short of brilliant. His deep reservoir of knowledge was matched only by his simplicity and down-to-earth demeanor, making him approachable and relatable to all who had the privilege of knowing him.

Over the past decade, I had the extraordinary opportunity to traverse different corners of the globe alongside Professor Kopacek. Despite his advanced age, Professor Kopacek's energy knew no bounds, especially evident in his love for travel, nature, photography, and the joy of love itself. His zest for life was infectious, and his ability to make us laugh will forever be cherished.

## IFAC Council- and Related Meetings 2024

**IFAC Officials: Please note that the 2024 meetings will take place from 24-26 June 2024 in conjunction with the European Control Conference in Stockholm, SE! The constantly updated draft schedule is available at:**

[ifac-control.org/news/stockholm-schedule](https://ifac-control.org/news/stockholm-schedule)

Beyond his academic accolades, Professor Kopacek was a great soul—a compassionate and caring individual who touched the lives of countless individuals. He possessed a rare combination of wisdom, humility, and kindness that left an indelible mark on everyone he encountered. As we bid farewell, let us honor Professor Kopacek's memory by continuing to pursue excellence with humility and grace. Though he may no longer be with us, his spirit will live on, inspiring us to make the most of every moment and cherish the bonds of love that enrich our lives.

Rest in peace, dear Professor Kopacek. Your light will forever shine in our hearts, guiding us through the darkness with your wisdom, humor, and unwavering spirit."

-Bahadur Ibrahimov (AZ, TC 9.5 chair 2023-2026 and Azerbaijan Robotics and Automation Society IFAC NMO representative)

## IFAC Digital Services Update

Following a Policy Committee recommendation, IFAC started a Data Base Taskforce in 2020 which created a new service to affiliates launched in 2023, called the IFAC Affiliates portal, or IFAC Portal for short. But IFAC has other digital services, all of which undergo evolutions. In this article we attempt to recapitulate all digital services offered to the IFAC community and give some insight on their existing and future features.

### IFAC Portal – [affiliates.ifac-control.org](https://affiliates.ifac-control.org)

The IFAC portal is the direct product of the recommendations produced during the 2017-2020 triennium by the Policy Committee chaired by Lucy Pao with Graziano Chesi, Jun-ichi Imura, Nikolay Kuznetsov, Martin Mönningmann, Maria Prandini, Sarah Spurgeon and myself (Dimitri Peaucelle) as members. The recommendations were to rebuild the IFAC database in order to include more data to know better the IFAC community and give the possibility for affiliates to manage their own data. The Database Taskforce was created in 2020, chaired by Derik le Roux with Harald D. Albrecht, Richard Braatz, Francesco Bullo, Ming Cao, Mary Doyle-Kent, Ruslan Mokaev, Martin Mönningmann, Lucy Pao, Carlos Eduardo Pereira, Ian Petersen, Maria Prandini, Katharina Willixhofer and myself (Dimitri Peaucelle) as members. It constructed the design document for the database, both for the data to be stored and the web interface for affiliates. It also selected a company, Totally (based in the UK).

After more than a year of development and testing the IFAC Portal was launched in April 2023. Today, the daily duties of maintaining the Portal are done by Katharina Willixhofer at the Secretariat: validating new affiliates, answering technical questions, etc. It is under my responsibility of IFAC Vice-president of Operations, with the help of the former Database Taskforce Chair, Derik le Roux, to design modifications

which include clearing bugs and opening new services.

As of this writing the IFAC Portal offers the following services:

- **Free online affiliation** to IFAC with full control by the affiliate of the provided data that can be either Web Public (visible to any visitor of the web portal), IFAC Public (visible only to logged in affiliates), Private (can only be used for internal IFAC statistics). As I write these lines the portal contains 7433 affiliate profiles. Among these 2111 have been updated. The others are profiles imported from the previous database and will be erased by the end of 2024, if affiliates do not connect. Personal data protection motivates erasing data if IFAC has no formal agreement for storing it. Among the 2111 active profiles, 1283 are at least IFAC public (name and surname can be consulted by IFAC affiliates), 602 are Web public (name and surname can be consulted by anyone). These figures are permanently increasing.

- **Search and display** among affiliates and of IFAC officials respectively. The portal allows to search among IFAC public profiles according to Countries/Regions, Fields of interest, Academia/Industry/Government affiliations. It also provides lists of IFAC officials for examples all IFAC officials from a Country/Region, all TC members of a TC, etc. Note that at this stage IFAC Secretariat has not found the time yet to enter all the historical data of all IFAC positions held since 1957, but is working hard on it. All IFAC officials have their profile at least IFAC public as decided by the IFAC Council in July 2023.

- **Certificate download** for all the IFAC positions and IFAC awards. It includes the possibility to download a certificate of being IFAC affiliate. Note that IFAC has voted upon a 10€ or equivalent reduction on conference fees for IFAC Affiliates and awards are expected to go to affiliates only.

- **Conference application** is, starting from this month, done in the Portal. IFAC colleagues who are willing to organize an IFAC Conference shall find a user-friendly interface to build their conference proposal which is then evaluated by the Technical Board and followed until the conference report within the Portal. It is expected to help the organizers in following the guidelines that guarantee good IFAC quality of the events.

- **Common credentials** with the Conference App. When connected to the portal, a simple link brings the affiliate to the IFAC Conference App, without needing other login and passwords. It works the same the other way around. More services and integration with IFAC digital services are expected for the future. Information will be disclosed in due course.

### IFAC Conference App - [ifac.flog.live](https://ifac.flog.live)

Experienced first in 2019 for the Symposium on Advances in Automotive Control in Orléans, France, this Conference App has been available for all IFAC Conferences since 2021. Its

## IFAC Affiliates portal

### The portal gives access to IFAC services:

- Share with and consult information about other Affiliates
- Receive the IFAC Newsletter
- Receive alerts about the IFAC Conferences in your field/s of interest
- Get reduced registration fees at IFAC Conferences. Conferences are typically 10€ (or the local equivalent) less expensive for IFAC Affiliates, than for non-affiliates
- Participate in IFAC Technical Activities
- Organize IFAC Conferences
- Participate in IFAC Journals
- Be nominated to IFAC Awards
- Apply to the IFAC Activity fund
- More to come in the future!

New! Log in is shared with the IFAC Conference App. There is no need for double registration.

Any individual interested in Control Engineering should sign up at [affiliates.ifac-control.org](https://affiliates.ifac-control.org)!

### How do I connect?

- If you are not yet connected to IFAC and wish to join for free, select 'Sign-Up' and then 'Register for an IFAC Account'. Meanwhile you may also browse the Web public data.

- If you receive this Newsletter in your mailbox, this means you are already connected to IFAC and listed in our database. To create your access to the portal for the first time, please select 'Sign-Up' and then 'Register for an IFAC Account' as above. In order to link your access to your existing data and save some time, please complete the form with the exact email address at which you receive the Newsletter.

Detailed instructions are available at: [ifac-control.org/about/affiliate-registration](https://ifac-control.org/about/affiliate-registration)

### Free and Exclusive

Signing in as an IFAC Affiliate is free and you keep of the control of the shared data which shall not be used for commercial or non IFAC purpose.

Signing in as IFAC Affiliate is mandatory to benefit from IFAC services and to participate in IFAC activities. Affiliates who do not connect to the portal within a year will have their data removed from the database. They will still have the possibility to become an affiliate again, but it may temporarily prevent access to services.

For any additional information, or if you require any assistance, please contact [secretariat@ifac-control.org](mailto:secretariat@ifac-control.org)

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We encourage electronic distribution of this Newsletter, as well as reprinting in national and local automatic control periodicals.

Acknowledgement to IFAC would be appreciated.

deployment is the result of recommendations of the Sustainability Taskforce which started in 2017 and was chaired by Paul Van den Hof. The Task force selected a company, Conference Compass and their product to host the Conference App. During the 2020-2023 triennium the interaction between Conference Compass and the Conference Organizers was under the responsibility of Ming Cao and is now continued by Paula Rocha. As of today, the IFAC Conference App offers the following services:

- **Display of the full conference program** which includes the schedule of all sessions, access to the abstracts and PDF files of the preprints, floor maps of the conference venue etc. It allows organizers to save on the printing of book of abstracts and other expensive financially and ecologically materials. Conference attendees have easy access to all the material both on their smartphones with a dedicated App in Apple and Android stores and on their laptops.

- **Chat and discussion** features allow people to connect during the conference, to meet and exchange about papers and presentations. As the tool is common to all IFAC conferences, the discussions can continue from one event to another.

All of these services are free both to conference attendees and to organizers. Additional services such as embedded video streaming for online or hybrid conferences is also possible at a reduced IFAC negotiated fee. Alternatives with links to online video rooms hosted by the organizers are also possible without additional fees.

### Conference Website hosting – [conferences.ifac-control.org](https://conferences.ifac-control.org)

This new service is the result of discussions within the conference website development task force chaired by Nikolay Kuznetsov with Ruslan Mokaev, Luca Zaccarian and myself as members. Initiated by the IFAC President (2017-2020) Frank Allgöwer, the original objective of the task force was to establish a methodology to archive conference web site that tend to disappear very rapidly as the conferences end, erasing in the same time many valuable information that could be useful for IFAC and to next conferences. It was finally recommended to offer a free service to the organizers of a centralized webhosting of conference websites. As of today, the IFAC Conference Website hosting offers the following services:

- **Free sustainable hosting** of the webpages with no need for maintenance from conference organizers to keep the sites active even long after the conference.

- **Easy and pre-configured sites** in WordPress. It requires little effort to settle the conference website by adding local data and benefitting of the prepared template which contains all the standard IFAC features such as the Diversity and Inclusion statement, link to become IFAC Affiliate, instructions for authors, Young Author Awards information, copyright

conditions, Young Author support, link to the Proceedings, links to the Conference App. We also expect that IFAC branding shall be improved by the usage of the common to all conferences URL: [conferences.ifac-control.org/conferencenameyear](https://conferences.ifac-control.org/conferencenameyear).

### Submission Management System – [ifac.papercept.net](https://ifac.papercept.net)

This is the well-known to all IFAC authors platform for paper submission. The platform is mandatory for all conferences with proceedings published in IFAC PapersOnLine. IFAC negotiated reduced fees and privileged friendly connection with Pradeep Misra allows conference program committees and editors to fully appreciate this well adapted tool for high quality conferences. Since 2021 the tool is interfaced with the IFAC Conference App to transfer the program data to the App and this feature is secured and free to organizers since 2023. Another interface with the IFAC Portal is planned to be operational in 2024 for automatized reports about conference statistics. This should simplify the port-conference workload of program chairs and improve transmission of data between conferences.

### Proceedings – [sciencedirect.com/journal/ifac-papersonline](https://sciencedirect.com/journal/ifac-papersonline)

PapersOnLine serves for diamond open access of all IFAC Conference proceedings. All proceedings are freely accessible since the start of IFAC conferences in 1957, thanks to digitalization work done during the 2014-2017 triennium under the supervision of Janan Zaytoon's IFAC presidency. Thanks to the excellent work of Juan Antonio de la Puente, as Editor-in-Chief, the Proceedings are published promptly on line after the conferences and since 2020 authors retain their copyright according to the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivs (CC BY-NC-ND) license. His legacy is now ensured by the new Editor-in-Chief José Luís Diez. The articles are easy to find and search for thanks to the Elsevier's sciencedirect.com platform, and are indexed in all major abstracting and indexing bases. Links from the IFAC Portal to authors lists of publications are planned for the future.

### Social media

IFAC is present today on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/ifac), [LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com/company/ifac), [X](https://www.x.com/ifac) and [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...). More active involvement with increased contents is to come soon. Affiliates are invited to connect with the IFAC accounts and share information and reactions.

### Websites

[www.ifac-control.org](https://www.ifac-control.org), [tc.ifac-control.org](https://tc.ifac-control.org), and [sites.ifac-control.org](https://sites.ifac-control.org)

All of the former digital services have benefited from recent upgrades or are currently ongoing evolutions. It will also be the case of the main IFAC web site and the sites of TCS, Industry Committee and Activities Fund Committee. I am looking forward to announce these changes soon.

Submitted by: Dimitri Peaucelle (FR), IFAC Vice-President for Operations

## Introducing the IFAC Moroccan AMO

The formation of this AMO reflects the existence in Morocco of a large community of researchers and practitioners in the field of Automatic Control and its applications to various areas. Interestingly, the research activities carried out by this community have always been highly motivated by socio-economic impacts. Among the earliest applications of adaptive control theory to industrial systems, some were completed by Moroccan researchers. In the eighties of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, adaptive control techniques were applied to systems pertaining to phosphate processing industry [1] and cement manufacturing [2].

Also in the early eighties, the first IFAC conference in Morocco was organized, namely the 3<sup>rd</sup> IFAC Conference on System approach for development, that was held in Rabat from 24-27 November 1980. More recently, power and energy system control has become the major research topic of the Moroccan control community. This is in line with the country's huge investments in renewable energy, especially in solar factories, leading to the current situation where renewable energy represents nearly 40% of the country's total energy consumption. The targeted objective is to reach 51% in 2030. Accordingly, Morocco has been ranked 4<sup>th</sup> in the Climate Change Performance Index 2021, 1<sup>st</sup> in Africa, 3<sup>rd</sup> in the MENA region, and 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Mediterranean basin.

The Moroccan control community is actively involved in all energetic transition research programs launched by the government. The results of this involvement are reported in several hundreds of PhD dissertations and papers. Interestingly, adaptive control techniques are widely represented in these reports.

The lasting interest of the Moroccan community to adaptive control theory is also reflected by the recent organization of the 14<sup>th</sup> IFAC Workshop on Adaptive and Learning Control Systems (ALCOS), in Casablanca in 2022. The creation of AMO Morocco is a natural move that aims at structuring the interaction of Moroccan Control Community with IFAC. Formally, this AMO is a chapter of the Moroccan Association of Automatic Control and Energy Systems (AMASE), which also includes an Automatic Control Chapter and an Energy Chapter.

AMASE aims at promoting these scientific and technological fields among public and private institutions, encouraging the interaction among the national community of researchers, and working to helping enhance the visibility of this community both nationally and internationally. To this end, AMASE collect relevant information on domestic research programs and international cooperation programs to make them available to all researchers. It plans to organize annual national meetings and forum of exchange where senior researchers and PhD students can present their works and interact with

various actors. But the immediate challenge of AMASE is to brilliantly organize the forthcoming 12<sup>th</sup> IFAC CPES in Rabat, MA from 10-12 July 2024. The first signals are quite encouraging as the authors of the submitted papers represent 34 countries and five continents. This will be a great opportunity to the national control community to interact with international attendees.

Additionally the organizers are currently working on the organization of a roundtable on the opportunities provided by the development of the green hydrogen industry in Morocco. A number of experts from industry have already confirmed their participation to this roundtable.

[1] M. Najim, K. Najim, D. El Jouhari, L. Radouane. *Use of a Micro-Computer for the Control of a Phosphate Drying Furnace*. IFAC Proceedings Volumes 13 (11), 171-180, 1980.

[2] F. Giri, T. Bennani. *Adaptive control of a clinker grate cooler*. IFAC Symposium on Digital Computer Applications to Process Control, Vienna, Austria, September 1985.

Submitted by: A. El Magri and F.Z. Chaoui (MA), AMO Morocco Co-Chairs



The IFAC Executive Officers at their annual meeting in Austria in April 2024. Read more about it in the June issue of this *Newsletter*! Bottom left to right: Hajime Asama, Dan Cho, Maria Prandini. Top left to right: Sarah Spurgeon, Dimitri Peaucelle, Richard Braatz, Silvia Mastellone, Carlos Eduardo Pereira.

The IFAC Story E-book  
is available!  
ISBN 978-3-902823-73-1

<https://www.ifac-control.org/about/the-ifac-story>

The IFAC Calendar of Conferences is constantly updated as additional technical events (Workshops, Symposia, and Conferences) are approved. Please check back often for the current status. The complete version of the IFAC Calendar of Conferences is available online at:

[https://www.ifac-control.org/conferences/@@conference\\_view](https://www.ifac-control.org/conferences/@@conference_view)

## Calendar of IFAC Conferences

Title	2024	Place	Further Information
17 <sup>th</sup> IFAC Workshop on Discrete Event Systems WODES 2024	April/May 29 – 01	Rio de Janeiro Brazil	<a href="http://wodes2024.eventos.ufrj.br/">wodes2024.eventos.ufrj.br/</a> <a href="mailto:wodes2024@dee.ufrj.br">wodes2024@dee.ufrj.br</a>
8 <sup>th</sup> IEEE/IFAC et al. International Conference on Control, Automation and Diagnosis ICCAD 2024	May 15 – 17	Paris France	<a href="http://iccad-conf.com/">iccad-conf.com/</a> <a href="mailto:contact@iccad-conf.com">contact@iccad-conf.com</a>
3 <sup>rd</sup> IFAC Workshop on Integrated Assessment Modeling for Environmental Systems IAMES 2024	May 29 – 31	Savona Italy	<a href="http://iames.unige.it/">iames.unige.it/</a> <a href="http://iames.unige.it/">iames.unige.it/</a> <a href="mailto:iames2024@dibris.unige.it">iames2024@dibris.unige.it</a>
22 <sup>nd</sup> IFAC Conference on Technology, Culture and International Stability TECIS 2024	May 29 – 31	Waterford Ireland	<a href="http://conferences.ifac-control.org/tecis2024">conferences.ifac-control.org/tecis2024</a>
12 <sup>th</sup> IFAC Symposium on Fault Detection, Supervision and Safety for Technical Processes SAFEPROCESS 2024	June 04 – 07	Ferrara Italy	<a href="http://safeprocess2024.eu/">safeprocess2024.eu/</a> <a href="mailto:silvio.simani@unife.it">silvio.simani@unife.it</a>
7 <sup>th</sup> IFAC Conference on Analysis and Control of Nonlinear Dynamics and Chaos ACNDC 2024	June 05 – 07	London United Kingdom	<a href="http://acn dc2024.org/">acn dc2024.org/</a>
8 <sup>th</sup> IFAC Workshop on Lagrangian and Hamiltonian Methods for Nonlinear Control LHMNC 2024	June 10 – 12	Besançon France	<a href="http://conferences.ifac-control.org/lhmnc24">conferences.ifac-control.org/lhmnc24</a>
4 <sup>th</sup> IFAC Conference on Advances in Proportional-Integral-Derivative Control PID 2024	June 12 – 14	Almería Spain	<a href="http://arm.ual.es/pid2024/">arm.ual.es/pid2024/</a>
6 <sup>th</sup> IFAC Workshop on Advanced Maintenance Engineering, Services and Technology AMEST 2024	June 12 – 14	Cagliari Italy	<a href="http://sites.unica.it/amest2024/">sites.unica.it/amest2024/</a> <a href="mailto:amest2024@unica.it">amest2024@unica.it</a>


### Impressum:

Medieninhaber und Herausgeber:  
International Federation of Automatic Control (IFAC), Zurich  
Schlossplatz 12, 2361 Laxenburg, Austria

ISSN 0254-3109

Verlagsort und Redaktion: Dr. Dimitri Peaucelle,  
Schlossplatz 12, 2361 Laxenburg  
[newsletter@ifac-control.org](mailto:newsletter@ifac-control.org)  
Editor: Dimitri Peaucelle  
Deputy Editor: Moritz Schulze Darup  
Layout: Elske Haberl  
published bimonthly

Das Sekretariat der IFAC befindet sich seit 1978 aufgrund eines Übereinkommens mit der Österreichischen Bundesregierung und mit der Österreichischen Akademie der Wissenschaften in Laxenburg und wird derzeit aus Mitteln des Bundesministeriums für Klimaschutz, Umwelt, Energie, Mobilität, Innovation und Technologie „BMK“ gefördert.

 Bundesministerium  
Klimaschutz, Umwelt,  
Energie, Mobilität,  
Innovation und Technolog

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Title	2024	Place	Further Information
18 <sup>th</sup> IFAC Conference on Programmable Devices and Embedded Systems PDES 2024	June 19 – 21	Brno Czech Republic	<a href="https://pdes-conference.eu/">pdes-conference.eu/</a> <a href="mailto:pdes@pdes-conference.eu">pdes@pdes-conference.eu</a>
EUCA Conference on European Control Conference (in cooperation with IFAC) ECC 2024	June 25 – 28	Stockholm Sweden	<a href="https://ecc24.euca-ecc.org/">ecc24.euca-ecc.org/</a> <a href="mailto:ecc24@euca-ecc.org">ecc24@euca-ecc.org</a>
17 <sup>th</sup> IFAC Symposium on Control of Transportation Systems CTS 2024	July 01 – 03	Ayia Napa Cyprus	<a href="https://ifaccts2024.wixsite.com/ifac-cts2024">ifaccts2024.wixsite.com/ifac-cts2024</a> <a href="mailto:ifac.cts2024@gmail.com">ifac.cts2024@gmail.com</a>
8 <sup>th</sup> IFAC Conference on Analysis and Design of Hybrid Systems ADHS 2024	July 01 – 03	Boulder, CO USA	<a href="https://colorado.edu/conference/adhs2024">colorado.edu/conference/adhs2024</a> <a href="mailto:majid.zamani@colorado.edu">majid.zamani@colorado.edu</a>
10 <sup>th</sup> IEEE, IFAC et al. International Conference on Control, Decision and Information Technologies CoDIT 2024	July 01 – 04	Valletta Malta	<a href="https://codit2024.com/">codit2024.com/</a>
Conference on American Control Conference (in cooperation with IFAC) ACC 2024	July 08 – 12	Toronto Canada	<a href="https://acc2024.a2c2.org/">acc2024.a2c2.org/</a>
12 <sup>th</sup> IFAC Conference on Fractional Differentiation and its Applications ICFDA 2024	July 09 – 12	Bordeaux France	<a href="https://icfda2024.sciencesconf.org/">icfda2024.sciencesconf.org/</a>
12 <sup>th</sup> IFAC Symposium on Control of Power and Energy Systems CPES 2024	July 10 – 12	Rabat Morocco	<a href="https://cpes2024.org/">cpes2024.org/</a> <a href="mailto:cpes2024@unicaen.fr">cpes2024@unicaen.fr</a>
12 <sup>th</sup> IFAC Symposium on Advanced Control of Chemical Processes ADCHEM 2024	July 14 – 17	Toronto Canada	<a href="https://adchem2024.org/">adchem2024.org/</a>
20 <sup>th</sup> IFAC Symposium on System Identification SYSID 2024	July 17 – 19	Boston, MA USA	<a href="https://conferences.ifac-control.org/sysid2024/">conferences.ifac-control.org/sysid2024/</a>
16 <sup>th</sup> APCA/IFAC International Conference on Automatic Control and Soft Computing CONTROLLO 2024	July 17 – 19	Porto Portugal	<a href="https://controlo2024.pt/">controlo2024.pt/</a> <a href="mailto:info@controlo2024.pt">info@controlo2024.pt</a>
2 <sup>nd</sup> IFAC Workshop on Aerospace Control Education WACE 2024	July 22 – 24	Bertinoro (Forli) Italy	<a href="https://wace2024.org/">wace2024.org/</a> <a href="mailto:info@wace2024.org">info@wace2024.org</a>
26 <sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Mathematical Theory of Networks and Systems (in cooperation with IFAC) MTNS 2024	August 19 – 23	Cambridge United Kingdom	<a href="https://mtns2024.eng.cam.ac.uk/">mtns2024.eng.cam.ac.uk/</a>
8 <sup>th</sup> IFAC Conference on Nonlinear Model Predictive Control NMPC 2024	August 21 – 24	Kyoto Japan	<a href="https://nmnpc2024.org/">nmnpc2024.org/</a> <a href="mailto:secretariat@nmnpc2024.org">secretariat@nmnpc2024.org</a>
18 <sup>th</sup> IFAC Symposium on Information Control Problems in Manufacturing INCOM 2024	August 28 – 30	Vienna Austria	<a href="https://incom2024.org/">incom2024.org/</a> <a href="mailto:incom2024@tuwien.ac.at">incom2024@tuwien.ac.at</a>
15 <sup>th</sup> IFAC Conference on Control Applications in Marine Systems, Robotics and Vehicles CAMS 2024	September 03 – 05	Blacksburg (VA) USA	<a href="https://ifac-cams2024.org/">ifac-cams2024.org/</a> <a href="mailto:cams2024@vt.edu">cams2024@vt.edu</a>
4 <sup>th</sup> IFAC Conference on Modelling, Identification and Control of Nonlinear Systems MICNON 2024	September 04 – 06	Lyon France	<a href="https://micnon2024.org/en">micnon2024.org/en</a> <a href="mailto:contact@micon2024.org">contact@micon2024.org</a>
7 <sup>th</sup> IFAC Workshop on Mining, Mineral and Metal Processing MMM 2024	September 04 – 06	Brisbane Australia	<a href="https://conferences.ifac-control.org/mmm2024">conferences.ifac-control.org/mmm2024</a>
10 <sup>th</sup> IFAC/CACHE Conference on Foundations of Systems Biology in Engineering FOSBE 2024	September 08-11	Corfu Island Greece	<a href="https://fosbe2024.iceht.forth.gr">fosbe2024.iceht.forth.gr</a> <a href="mailto:fosbe2024@iceht.forth.gr">fosbe2024@iceht.forth.gr</a>

## Calendar of IFAC Conferences

Title	2024	Place	Further Information
2 <sup>nd</sup> Conference on Modelling and Simulation SIMS EUROSIM 2024	September 10 – 12	Oulu Finland	<a href="https://scansims.org/events.php?sid=39&amp;src=db1557571001">scansims.org/events.php?sid=39&amp;src=db1557571001</a>
12 <sup>th</sup> IFAC Symposium on Biological and Medical Systems BMS 2024	September 11 – 13	Villingen-Schwenningen Germany	<a href="https://www.bms-24.org/bms2024@hfu.eu">https://www.bms-24.org/bms2024@hfu.eu</a>
3 <sup>rd</sup> SACAC Control Conference Africa (in cooperation with IFAC) CCA 2024	September 16 – 17	Balacava Mauritius	<a href="https://cca2024.org/info@cca2024.org">https://cca2024.org/info@cca2024.org</a>
4 <sup>th</sup> IFAC Workshop on Internet Based Control Education IBCE 2024	September 18 – 20	Ghent Belgium	<a href="https://ibce24.ugent.be">ibce24.ugent.be</a>
18 <sup>th</sup> IFAC Workshop on Time Delay Systems TDS 2024	September 24 – 27	Udine Italy	<a href="https://tds2024.uniud.it">tds2024.uniud.it</a> <a href="mailto:tds2024@uniud.it">tds2024@uniud.it</a>
Univ. Stuttgart, IST / IFAC Symposium on Systems Theory in Data and Optimization SysDo 2024	Sept./Oct. 30 – 02	Stuttgart Germany	<a href="https://sysdo2024.de">sysdo2024.de</a>
4 <sup>th</sup> AACC, IFAC Conference on Modeling, Estimation and Control Conference MECC 2024	October 27 – 30	Chicago (IL) USA	<a href="https://mecc2024.a2c2.org">mecc2024.a2c2.org</a>
7 <sup>th</sup> IFAC Conference on Engine and Powertrain Control, Simulation and Modeling E-COSM 2024	Oct./Nov. 30 – 01	Dalian China	
21 <sup>st</sup> INSTICC International Conference on (in cooperation with IFAC) Informatics in Control, Automation and Robotics, ICINCO 2024	November 18 – 20	Porto Portugal	<a href="https://icinco.scitevents.org">icinco.scitevents.org</a> <a href="mailto:icinco.secretariat@insticc.org">icinco.secretariat@insticc.org</a>
18 <sup>th</sup> INSTICC/IFIP IFAC Workshop on Enterprise Integration, Interoperability and Networking EI2N 2024	November 21 – 22	Porto Portugal	<a href="https://in4pl.scitevents.org/EI2N.aspx">in4pl.scitevents.org/EI2N.aspx</a> <a href="mailto:in4pl.secretariat@insticc.org">in4pl.secretariat@insticc.org</a>
5 <sup>th</sup> INSTICC et al. International Conference on Innovative Intelligent Industrial Production and Logistics IN4PL 2024	November 21 – 22	Porto Portugal	<a href="https://in4pl.scitevents.org/Home.aspx">in4pl.scitevents.org/Home.aspx</a> <a href="mailto:in4pl.secretariat@insticc.org">in4pl.secretariat@insticc.org</a>
5 <sup>th</sup> IFAC Workshop on Cyber-Physical-Human Systems CPHS 2024	December 12 – 14	Antalya Turkey	<a href="https://cphs2024.org/">cphs2024.org/</a>
Title	2025	Place	Further Information
11 <sup>th</sup> Vienna International Conference on Mathematical Modelling MATHMOD 2025	February 19 – 21	Vienna Austria	<a href="https://mathmod.at/">mathmod.at/</a> <a href="mailto:mathmod@acin.tuwien.ac.at">mathmod@acin.tuwien.ac.at</a>
13 <sup>th</sup> IFAC Symposium on Nonlinear Control Systems NOLCOS 2025	July 09-11	Reykjavik Iceland	
15 <sup>th</sup> IFAC Symposium on Intelligent Manufacturing Systems IMS 2025	September 11 – 12	Koszalin Poland	
7 <sup>th</sup> IFAC Symposium on Telematics Applications TA 2025	September 15 – 18	Padova Italy	
1 <sup>st</sup> IFAC Workshop on Engineering and Architectures of Automation Systems EAAS 2025	September 15 – 18	Padova Italy	
Title	2026	Place	Further Information
23 <sup>rd</sup> IFAC World Congress WC 2026	August 23– 28	Busan Republic of Korea	<a href="https://ifac2026.org">ifac2026.org</a> <a href="mailto:ifac2026@ifac2026.org">ifac2026@ifac2026.org</a>