
INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN BRUSSELS

A report prepared by the Union of International Associations for Brussels Invest, October 2008

On the source of this information

For 100 years the UIA has focused on the nature and evolution of the international civil society – a topic of increasing relevance.

The UIA is a non-profit, apolitical, independent and non-governmental institution in the service of international associations, now often referred to as international non-governmental organizations (NGO) and inter-governmental organizations (IGO). In all parts of the world and in every facet of 21st century life, such associations are playing a central role.

The UIA has a century of expertise in discovering the emergence of new organizations and of new organizational forms. Its database includes descriptions of over 60,000 international associations, representing every field of human endeavour in both the past and the present, and 180,000 of their international meetings (from 1986 to 2022, with, for example, 8040 for 2006 alone).

The UIA's central concern has always been to maintain a comprehensive catalogue of non-profit-making international bodies. These bodies appear in a myriad of forms, from those with a long history and a conventional structure to those appearing only fleetingly in the virtual world of the Internet.

The UIA's experience has taught it the difficulty of defining terms such as "non-profit" and "international" and "organization". At the same time, its experience gives it the ability to accurately judge the nature and scope of the bodies on which it provides documentation.

Further information on the criteria for inclusion in the UIA's Yearbook of International Organizations is given below under "Types of organization".

This analysis, based on *Yearbook* data, provides a snapshot of the situation in Brussels in 2007.

On the reasons for Brussels' popularity

The reasons for Brussels' popularity among international organizations are many. To a great extent geography is a key factor. With its central location, Brussels is seen as a more central and international space whereby secretariat location does not take on a partisan national or linguistic bias. Brussels' location at the **heart of Western Europe** and its favorable transportation links make it easily accessible to travel to, including to other important international cities and institutions in major centers like London, Paris, Strasbourg and Geneva.

Historically, Brussels being the **main home of the European Union institutions** has made it an ideal location with regard to lobbying, the development of international standards, access to information, and the site of decision making. With Brussels as the nexus of science and industry, it is natural that affiliated associations will be housed there. Its strong university and higher technical and continuing education communities also make Brussels a vibrant base for organizations.

Services essential to international organizations are also abundant in Brussels, with easy access to professional services such as print and communication facilities, and a pool of highly qualified, multi-lingual staff for translation and interpretation. With around 225 major international conferences and meetings taking place in Brussels each year, a full range of services has evolved to attend to the needs of this industry.

In addition, Brussels hosts the International Trade Union House and the Maison des Associations Internationales which provide support to organizations. Lastly, Belgium is one of the few places in the world to **accord associations a special legal recognition and registration status** in terms of juridical personality.



How many international organizations are there in Brussels?

The two tables below indicate the number of international organizations (whether intergovernmental or non-governmental) with secretariats in five selected cities.

Note that it has not always been possible to take into account secretariats located in suburbs or city districts known by their own names.

For each city there are 9 lines of data:

1. principal secretariats (headquarters, main office) of intergovernmental organizations (IGO)
2. secondary secretariats (regional, specialized) of intergovernmental organizations (IGO)
3. the total number of secretariats (whether principal or secondary) of intergovernmental organizations (IGO)
4. principal secretariats (headquarters, main office) of non-governmental organizations (NGO)
5. secondary secretariats (regional, specialized) of non-governmental organizations (NGO)
6. the total number of secretariats (whether principal or secondary) of non-governmental organizations (NGO)
7. principal secretariats (headquarters, main office) of international organizations (whether intergovernmental or non-governmental)
8. secondary secretariats (regional, specialized) of international organizations (whether intergovernmental or non-governmental)
9. the total number of secretariats (whether principal or secondary) of international organizations (whether intergovernmental or non-governmental)

The organizations are totalled by type, indicated by the letter code at the head of each column. In addition, totals are given at the end of each row by cluster. The organization types allocated to each cluster are as follows:

Cluster I (International organizations): Types A B C D F

Cluster II (Dependent organizations): Types E K R

Cluster III (Organizational substitutes): Types S T

Cluster IV (National organizations): Types G N

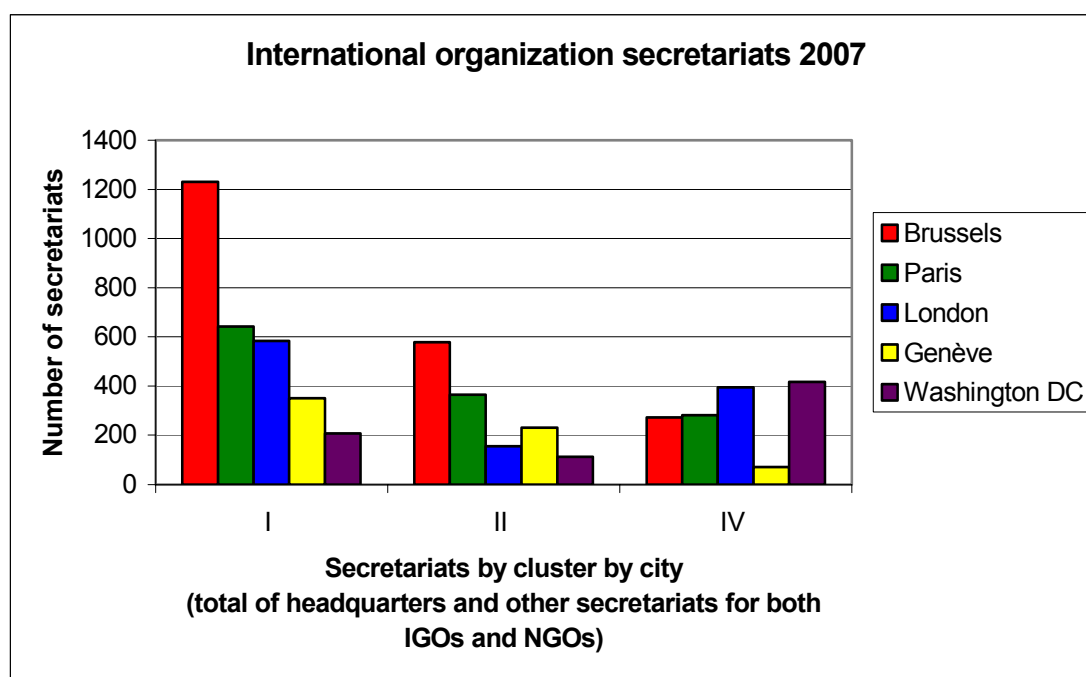
Cluster V (Dead, inactive and unconfirmed bodies): Types H J U

See below "Types of organization" for information on the significance of these letter codes.

Number of international organizations with offices in 5 selected cities – 2007 (ed 2008/2009) – by type

CITY		TYPES OF ORGANIZATION														TOTAL BY CLUSTER					TOTAL A-U	
		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	J	K	N	R	S	T	U	I	II	III	IV		V
Brussels Belgium	IGO main	0	3	2	5	54	43	4	11	2	51	0	0	0	41	32	53	105	41	4	45	248
	reg.	0	5	0	3	23	15	0	2	0	4	0	0	0	1	0	23	27	1	0	2	53
	total	0	8	2	8	77	58	4	13	2	55	0	0	0	42	32	76	132	42	4	47	301
	NGO main	1	23	48	584	325	314	171	28	57	71	58	4	3	0	734	970	400	3	229	819	2421
	reg.	2	22	12	77	44	72	32	8	2	2	9	1	0	0	40	185	47	0	41	50	323
	total	3	45	60	661	369	386	203	36	59	73	67	5	3	0	774	1155	447	3	270	869	2744
Tot. main	1	26	50	589	379	357	175	39	59	122	58	4	3	0	41	766	1023	505	44	233	864	2669
reg.	2	27	12	80	67	87	32	10	2	6	9	1	0	1	40	208	74	1	41	52	376	
total	3	53	62	669	446	444	207	49	61	128	67	5	3	42	806	1231	579	45	274	916	3045	
Paris France	IGO main	0	5	4	4	26	32	4	11	4	27	0	0	1	37	18	45	53	38	4	33	173
	reg.	0	4	0	3	9	10	0	1	0	5	0	0	0	0	6	17	14	0	0	7	38
	total	0	9	4	7	35	42	4	12	4	32	0	0	1	37	24	62	67	38	4	40	211
	NGO main	6	37	69	172	111	151	209	24	17	68	54	42	11	0	478	435	221	11	263	519	1449
	reg.	4	17	31	52	30	42	14	6	1	40	1	7	0	0	18	146	77	0	15	25	263
	total	10	54	100	224	141	193	223	30	18	108	55	49	11	0	496	581	298	11	278	544	1712
Tot. main	6	42	73	176	137	183	213	35	21	95	54	42	12	37	496	480	274	49	267	552	1622	
reg.	4	21	31	55	39	52	14	7	1	45	1	7	0	0	24	163	91	0	15	32	301	
total	10	63	104	231	176	235	227	42	22	140	55	49	12	37	520	643	365	49	282	584	1923	
London UK	IGO main	0	5	3	1	3	22	3	0	2	11	0	0	7	60	4	31	14	67	3	6	121
	reg.	0	1	0	2	2	7	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	10	3	0	0	1	14
	total	0	6	3	3	5	29	3	1	2	12	0	0	7	60	4	41	17	67	3	7	135
	NGO main	0	30	70	151	91	191	296	10	27	15	70	8	13	0	290	442	114	13	366	327	1262
	reg.	1	13	17	28	21	42	19	0	0	2	8	1	0	0	15	101	24	0	27	15	167
	total	1	43	87	179	112	233	315	10	27	17	78	9	13	0	305	543	138	13	393	342	1429
Tot. main	0	35	73	152	94	213	299	10	29	26	70	8	20	60	294	473	128	80	369	333	1383	
reg.	1	14	17	30	23	49	19	1	0	3	8	1	0	0	15	111	27	0	27	16	181	
total	1	49	90	182	117	262	318	11	29	29	78	9	20	60	309	584	155	80	396	349	1564	
Geneva Switzerland	IGO main	0	7	1	1	56	41	0	7	13	35	0	0	1	204	11	50	91	205	0	31	377
	reg.	2	8	0	2	19	8	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	20	22	0	0	0	42
	total	2	15	1	3	75	49	0	7	13	38	0	0	1	204	11	70	113	205	0	31	419
	NGO main	4	35	19	46	79	100	55	7	10	15	9	1	4	0	83	204	95	4	64	100	467
	reg.	3	19	11	15	19	28	6	0	0	3	2	1	0	0	7	76	23	0	8	7	114
	total	7	54	30	61	98	128	61	7	10	18	11	2	4	0	90	280	118	4	72	107	581
Tot. main	4	42	20	47	135	141	55	14	23	50	9	1	5	204	94	254	186	209	64	131	844	
reg.	5	27	11	17	38	36	6	0	0	6	2	1	0	0	7	96	45	0	8	7	156	
total	9	69	31	64	173	177	61	14	23	56	11	2	5	204	101	350	231	209	72	138	1000	
Washington DC USA	IGO main	0	2	0	1	25	26	7	9	0	11	0	0	1	85	14	29	36	86	7	23	181
	reg.	0	4	1	3	7	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	7	0	0	1	17
	total	0	6	1	4	32	27	7	10	0	11	0	0	1	85	14	38	43	86	7	24	198
	NGO main	0	2	9	28	42	96	336	4	20	14	46	3	7	0	249	135	59	7	382	273	856
	reg.	0	8	1	6	8	20	24	0	0	2	5	0	0	0	7	35	10	0	29	7	81
	total	0	10	10	34	50	116	360	4	20	16	51	3	7	0	256	170	69	7	411	280	937
Tot. main	0	4	9	29	67	122	343	13	20	25	46	3	8	85	263	164	95	93	389	296	1037	
reg.	0	12	2	9	15	21	24	1	0	2	5	0	0	0	7	44	17	0	29	8	98	
total	0	16	11	38	82	143	367	14	20	27	51	3	8	85	270	208	112	93	418	304	1135	

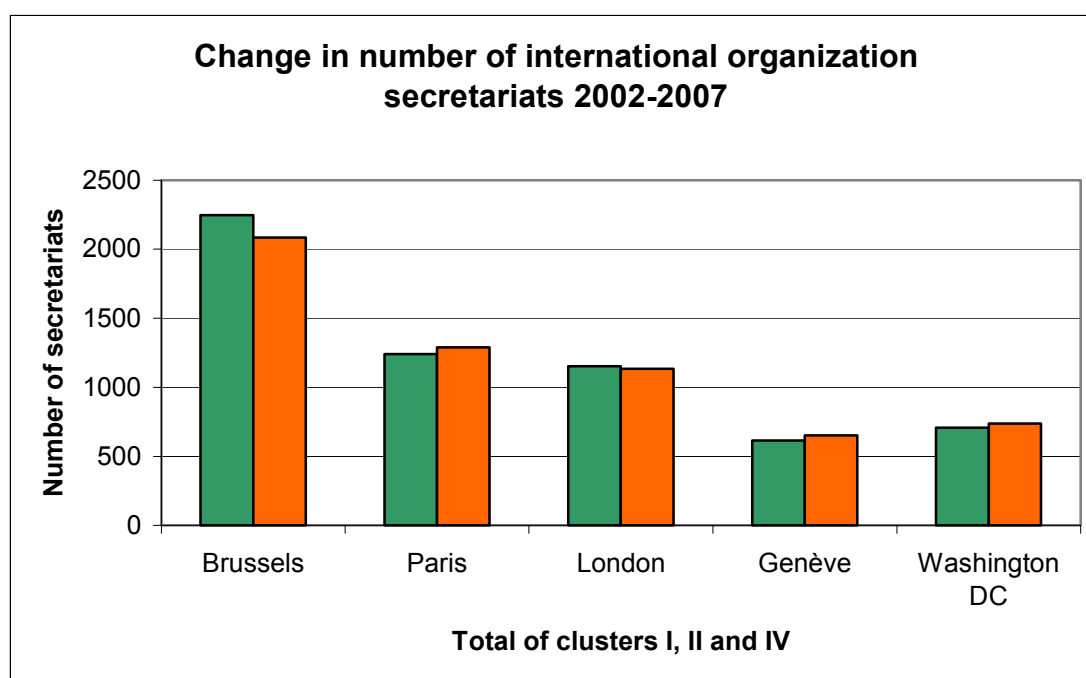
In the presentation below, only organizations of clusters I, II and IV are represented.



Number of international organizations with offices in 5 selected cities – 2002 (ed 2003/2004) – by type

CITY		TYPES OF ORGANIZATION														TOTAL BY CLUSTER					TOTAL A-U	
		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	J	K	N	R	S	T	U	I	II	III	IV		V
Brussels Belgium	IGO main	0	3	2	5	64	61	2	5	4	77	0	0	0	20	29	71	141	20	2	38	272
	reg.	0	3	0	4	20	23	0	1	1	6	0	0	0	1	1	30	26	1	0	3	60
	Tot.	0	6	2	9	84	84	2	6	5	83	0	0	0	21	30	101	167	21	2	41	332
	NGO main	2	25	54	530	331	317	169	49	5	93	190	4	2	0	708	928	428	2	359	762	2479
	reg.	0	25	10	86	38	61	23	9	0	4	15	1	0	0	41	182	43	0	38	50	313
	Tot.	2	50	64	616	369	378	192	58	5	97	205	5	2	0	749	1110	471	2	397	812	2792
	Tot.	2	28	56	535	395	378	171	54	9	170	190	4	2	20	737	999	569	22	361	800	2751
Paris France	IGO main	0	5	5	3	29	38	5	9	0	39	0	0	1	6	15	51	68	7	5	24	155
	reg.	0	4	1	4	12	9	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	5	18	16	0	0	5	39
	Tot.	0	9	6	7	41	47	5	9	0	43	0	0	1	6	20	69	84	7	5	29	194
	NGO main	8	42	66	175	101	140	169	94	5	55	58	43	20	0	555	431	199	20	227	654	1531
	reg.	5	15	37	43	23	43	8	7	1	43	2	7	0	0	24	143	73	0	10	32	258
	Tot.	13	57	103	218	124	183	177	101	6	98	60	50	20	0	579	574	272	20	237	686	1789
	Tot.	8	47	71	178	130	178	174	103	5	94	58	43	21	6	570	482	267	27	232	678	1686
London UK	IGO main	0	5	4	2	5	22	2	0	0	15	0	0	7	4	2	33	20	11	2	2	68
	reg.	0	1	0	2	3	6	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	9	5	0	0	1	15
	Tot.	0	6	4	4	8	28	2	1	0	17	0	0	7	4	2	42	25	11	2	3	83
	NGO main	2	32	87	161	88	177	263	26	3	26	92	8	14	0	286	459	122	14	355	315	1265
	reg.	0	10	21	27	16	43	21	0	0	3	7	0	0	0	11	101	19	0	28	11	159
	Tot.	2	42	108	188	104	220	284	26	3	29	99	8	14	0	297	560	141	14	383	326	1424
	Tot.	2	37	91	163	93	199	265	26	3	41	92	8	21	4	288	492	142	25	357	317	1333
Genève Switzerland	IGO main	0	7	1	1	53	38	0	5	10	41	0	0	0	195	11	47	94	195	0	26	362
	reg.	2	7	1	2	20	12	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	24	21	0	0	1	46
	Tot.	2	14	2	3	73	50	0	5	10	42	0	0	0	195	12	71	115	195	0	27	408
	NGO main	3	33	21	28	70	91	52	8	4	14	9	1	5	0	86	176	85	5	61	98	425
	reg.	5	17	17	10	22	26	5	0	0	5	0	1	0	0	8	75	28	0	5	8	116
	Tot.	8	50	38	38	92	117	57	8	4	19	9	2	5	0	94	251	113	5	66	106	541
	Tot.	3	40	22	29	123	129	52	13	14	55	9	1	5	195	97	223	179	200	61	124	787
Washington DC USA	IGO main	0	2	0	1	24	27	9	5	0	17	0	0	0	62	14	30	41	62	9	19	161
	reg.	0	4	1	3	7	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	7	0	1	0	20
	Tot.	0	6	1	4	31	31	10	5	0	17	0	0	0	62	14	42	48	62	10	19	181
	NGO main	0	4	10	26	37	95	265	5	3	17	92	2	5	0	266	135	56	5	357	274	827
	reg.	2	9	2	2	8	14	16	0	0	2	3	1	0	0	8	29	11	0	19	8	67
	Tot.	2	13	12	28	45	109	281	5	3	19	95	3	5	0	274	164	67	5	376	282	894
	Tot.	0	6	10	27	61	122	274	10	3	34	92	2	5	62	280	165	97	67	366	293	988
Washington DC USA	IGO main	2	13	3	5	15	18	17	0	0	2	3	1	0	0	8	41	18	0	20	8	87
	reg.	2	13	3	5	15	18	17	0	0	2	3	1	0	0	8	41	18	0	20	8	87
	Tot.	2	19	13	32	76	140	291	10	3	36	95	3	5	62	288	206	115	67	386	301	1075

In the presentation below, only the total number of organizations of clusters I, II and IV is represented. The green bar represents the 2002 figures, the orange bar represents the 2007 figures.



How many international organizations are there?

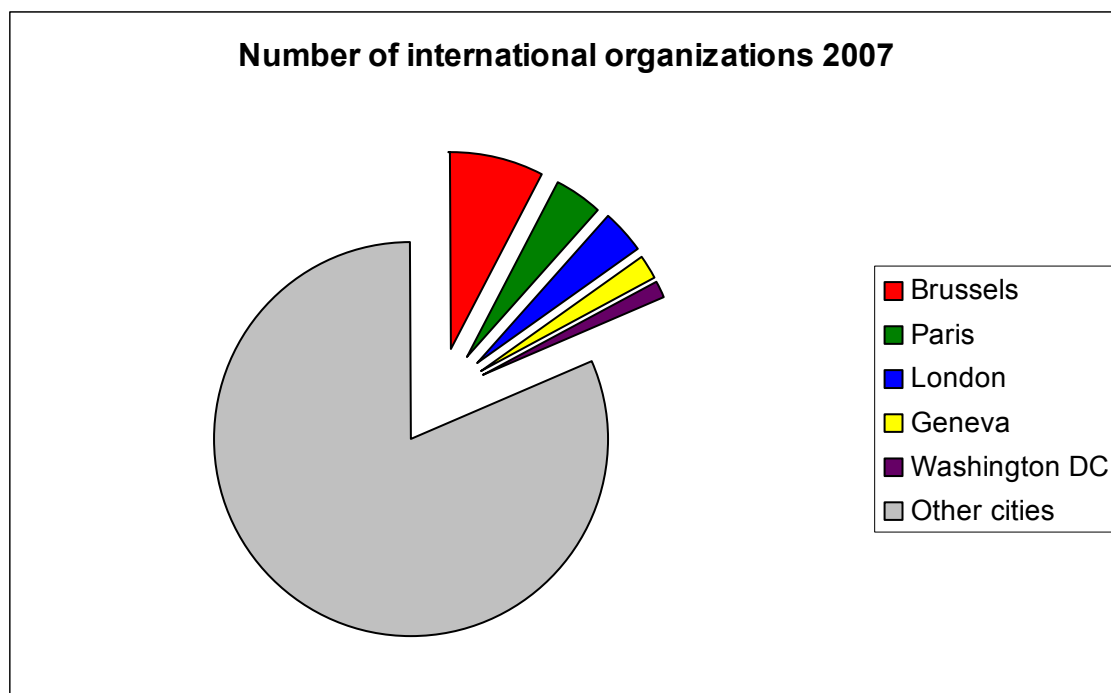
Presented in this table is the number of international organizations currently listed in the database of the *Yearbook of International Organizations*. The organizations are totalled by type (see the Appendix "Types of organization") and by whether they are intergovernmental or not.

This table suggests different answers to the question "How many international organizations are there?"

1. Conventional intergovernmental organizations, when attaching importance to the non-recognition of international non-governmental organizations in terms of international law. (Multilateral treaties, Type T, might be added as closely related international "instruments".)
2. Conventional international bodies, both governmental and non-governmental, when attaching importance to the existence of autonomous international bodies as a social reality.
3. Conventional bodies (Types A to D) plus special forms (Type F), when recognizing the importance of organizational substitutes and unconventional form. (To the latter might be added conference series, Type S, and multilateral treaties, Type T, as forms of organization substitute.)
4. Conventional bodies (Types A to D), special forms (Type F) and religious orders (Type R), when attaching importance to the social reality of the latter as independent actors.
5. Conventional bodies (Types A to D), other international bodies (Types E to G), religious orders (Type R), and multilateral treaties (Type T), when recognizing the international impact of semi-autonomous and nationally tied organizations. (Documentalists might also include inactive bodies, Type H, which figure in the "authority lists" of international organizations.)

See below "Types of organization" for information on the significance of these letter codes.

The presentation below shows the proportion of international organizations with headquarters in 5 selected cities – the 5 with the most international organization headquarters – compared to those in all other cities. Only headquarters of organizations of clusters I, II and IV are included here.



Number of international organizations by cluster – 2007 (ed. 2008/2009)

Types by cluster	Intergovernmental			Nongovernmental			Total	
	No. of this type	% of this type	% of this cluster	No. of this type	% of this type	% of this cluster	No. of this type	% of this cluster
CLUSTER I: INTERNATIONAL BODIES								
A. Federations of international organizations	1	3.03	0.10	32	96.97	0.27	33	0.25
B. Universal membership organizations	34	6.81	3.53	465	93.19	3.88	499	3.85
C. Intercontinental membership organizations	32	2.92	3.32	1063	97.08	8.87	1095	8.45
D. Regionally oriented membership organizations	173	2.77	17.95	6068	97.23	50.61	6241	48.18
F. Organizations of special form	724	14.24	75.10	4362	85.76	36.38	5086	39.26
TOTAL: CLUSTER I	964	7.44	100.00	11990	92.56	100.00	12954	100.00
CLUSTER II: DEPENDENT BODIES								
E. Org's emanating from places, persons, bodies	828	23.57	68.89	2685	76.43	56.67	3513	59.14
K. Subsidiary and internal bodies	374	24.61	31.11	1146	75.39	24.19	1520	25.59
R. Religious orders and secular institutes	0	0.00	0.00	907	100.00	19.14	907	15.27
TOTAL: CLUSTER II	1202	20.24	100.00	4738	79.76	100.00	5940	100.00
CLUSTER III: ORGANIZATIONAL SUBSTITUTES								
S. Autonomous conference series	138	19.01	5.48	588	80.99	100.00	726	23.38
T. Multilateral treaties, intergov'tal agreements	2379	100.00	94.52	0	0.00	0.00	2379	76.62
TOTAL: CLUSTER III	2517	81.06	100.00	588	18.94	100.00	3105	100.00
CLUSTER IV: NATIONAL BODIES								
G. Internationally oriented national organizations	121	1.81	100.00	6549	98.19	69.13	6670	69.52
N. National organizations	0	0.00	0.00	2924	100.00	30.87	2924	30.48
TOTAL: CLUSTER IV	121	1.26	100.00	9473	98.74	100.00	9594	100.00
CLUSTER V: DEAD, INACTIVE AND UNCONFIRMED BODIES								
H. Dissolved or apparently inactive organizations	768	14.68	28.93	4462	85.32	16.17	5230	17.29
J. Recently reported bodies - not yet confirmed	56	20.14	2.11	222	79.86	0.80	278	0.92
U. Currently inactive nonconventional bodies	1831	7.40	68.96	22904	92.60	83.02	24735	81.79
TOTAL: CLUSTER V	2655	8.78	100.00	27588	91.22	100.00	30243	100.00
TOTAL ALL TYPES	7459	12.06		54377	87.94		61836	

Number of international organizations by cluster – 2002 (ed. 2003/2004)

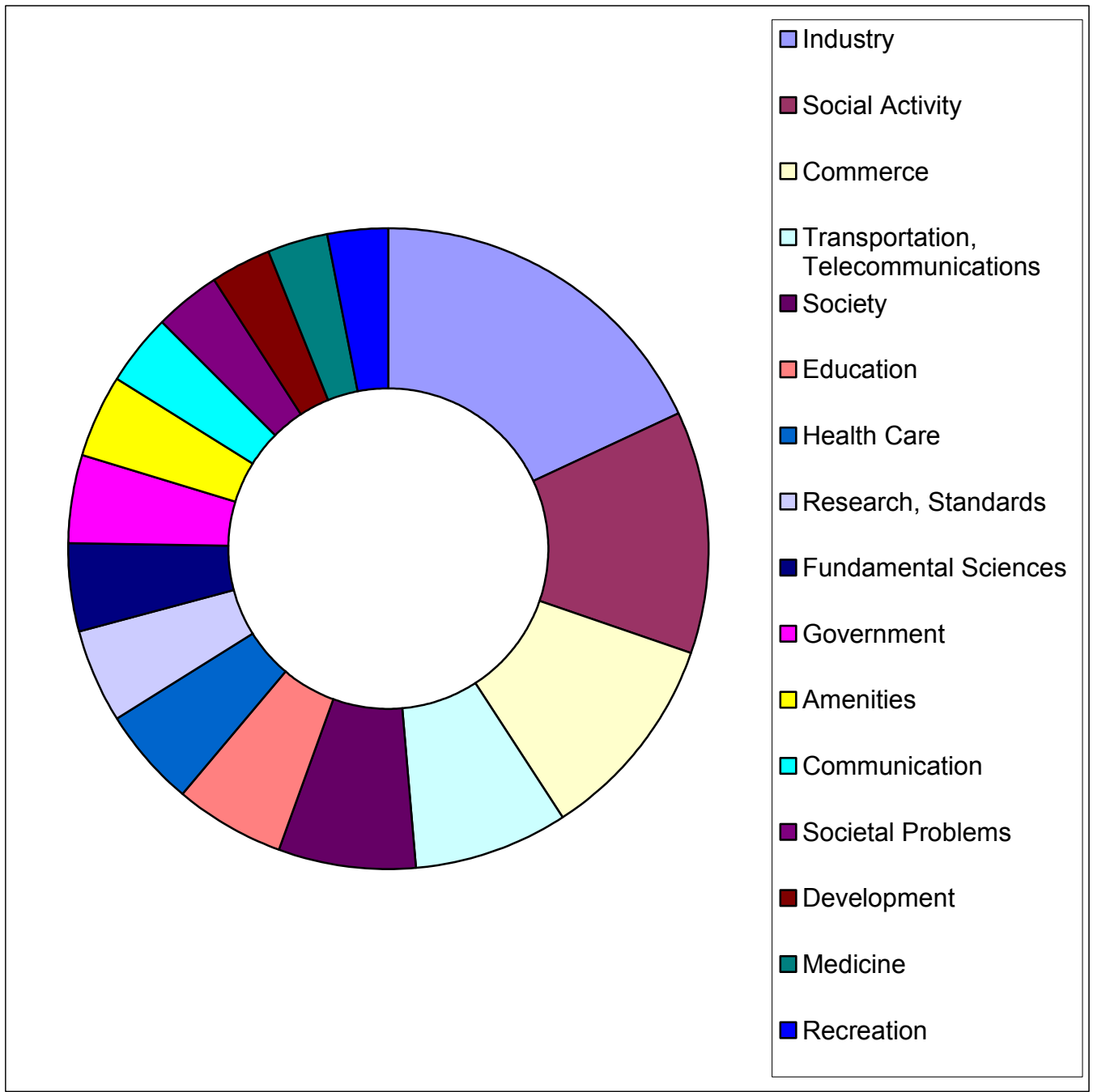
Types by cluster	Intergovernmental			Nongovernmental			Total	
	No. of this type	% of this type	% of this cluster	No. of this type	% of this type	% of this cluster	No. of this type	% of this cluster
CLUSTER I: INTERNATIONAL BODIES								
A. Federations of international organizations	1	2.70	0.10	36	97.30	0.35	37	0.33
B. Universal membership organizations	34	6.73	3.49	471	93.27	4.53	505	4.44
C. Intercontinental membership organizations	32	2.96	3.29	1048	97.04	10.08	1080	9.50
D. Regionally oriented membership organizations	171	3.29	17.56	5029	96.71	48.35	5200	45.71
F. Organizations of special form	736	16.17	75.56	3815	83.83	36.69	4551	40.02
TOTAL: CLUSTER I	974	8.56	100.00	10399	91.44	100.00	11373	100.00
CLUSTER II: DEPENDENT BODIES								
E. Org's emanating from places, persons, bodies	860	27.03	59.81	2322	72.97	50.26	3182	52.52
K. Subsidiary and internal bodies	578	29.30	40.19	1395	70.70	30.19	1973	32.57
R. Religious orders and secular institutes	0	0.00	0.00	903	100.00	19.55	903	14.91
TOTAL: CLUSTER II	1438	23.74	100.00	4620	76.26	100.00	6058	100.00
CLUSTER III: ORGANIZATIONAL SUBSTITUTES								
S. Autonomous conference series	136	19.10	5.60	576	80.90	100.00	712	23.69
T. Multilateral treaties, intergov'tal agreements	2293	100.00	94.40	0	0.00	0.00	2293	76.31
TOTAL: CLUSTER III	2429	80.83	100.00	576	19.17	100.00	3005	100.00
CLUSTER IV: NATIONAL BODIES								
G. Internationally oriented national organizations	104	1.82	99.05	5612	98.18	62.49	5716	62.91
N. National organizations	1	0.03	0.95	3369	99.97	37.51	3370	37.09
TOTAL: CLUSTER IV	105	1.16	100.00	8981	98.84	100.00	9086	100.00
CLUSTER V: DEAD, INACTIVE AND UNCONFIRMED BODIES								
H. Dissolved or apparently inactive organizations	614	12.78	27.06	4191	87.22	16.83	4805	17.69
J. Recently reported bodies - not yet confirmed	94	19.42	4.14	390	80.58	1.57	484	1.78
U. Currently inactive nonconventional bodies	1561	7.14	68.80	20314	92.86	81.60	21875	80.53
TOTAL: CLUSTER V	2269	8.35	100.00	24895	91.65	100.00	27164	100.00
TOTAL ALL TYPES	7215	12.73	-	49471	87.27	-	56686	-

Areas of interest of international organizations in Brussels – 2007 (ed. 2008/2009)

The following figures show the areas of interest of the international organizations with offices (whether headquarters or other) in Brussels. An organization may be classified under more than one subject category according to its principal aims and activities. Only organizations of clusters I, II and IV are included here.

SUBJECT CATEGORY	CLUSTER			TOTAL	SUBJECT CATEGORY	CLUSTER			TOTAL
	I	II	IV			I	II	IV	
COSMOSPHERE / GEOSPHERE					CONCEPT FORMATION (CONTEXT)				
Fundamental Sciences	79	73	0	152	Science	13	5	3	21
Astronomy	2	3	0	5	Experiential Activity	1	1	0	2
Earth	0	2	0	2	History	5	1	3	9
Meteorology	3	3	0	6	Culture	23	5	21	49
Climatology	1	2	3	6	Strategy	10	4	5	19
Oceanography	4	2	0	6	Theology	23	17	6	46
Hydrology	7	3	1	11	Metapolitics	14	5	4	23
Geology	8	3	0	11	Agrosociences	2	1	0	3
Resources	65	21	0	86	International Relations	7	2	6	15
BIOSPHERE					INNOVATIVE CHANGE (STRUCTURE)				
Life	0	1	4	5	Development	45	24	35	104
Biosciences	16	4	1	21	Policy-making	22	8	3	33
Plant Life	21	9	0	30	Language	18	5	7	30
Zoology	3	2	2	7	Design	2	1	0	3
Fish, Reptiles	1	2	0	3	Interdisciplinarity	1	1	3	5
Birds, Mammals	5	1	2	8	Individuation	1	0	1	2
Mankind	1	0	1	2	Value Redistribution	4	5	1	10
Medicine	77	14	12	103	Conservation	14	4	0	18
Geography	10	6	3	19	INNOVATIVE CHANGE (CONTEXT)				
SOCIAL ACTION (STRUCTURE)					Innovative change	12	3	3	18
Action	6	4	4	14	Emotional fulfilment	1	0	0	1
Society	119	77	41	237	Philosophy	3	4	0	7
Social Activity	260	112	41	413	Aesthetics	2	1	1	4
Information	34	17	12	63	Security	6	3	3	12
Amenities	94	32	14	140	Morals	8	2	0	10
Transportation, Telecommunic.	191	73	3	267	Peace	42	17	11	70
Communication	83	26	11	120	EXPERIENTIAL (VALUES)				
Commerce	234	93	25	352	Principles	2	0	0	2
Industry	409	200	9	618	Purpose	2	0	1	3
Societal Problems	71	36	13	120	Solidarity	21	18	26	65
SOCIAL ACTION (CONTEXT)					Idealism	6	3	5	14
Research, Standards	76	55	26	157	Harmony	2	0	0	2
Health Care	127	38	13	178	Integration	3	4	3	10
Education	104	43	38	185	Meaning	1	0	0	1
Recreation	71	11	18	100	Sharing	3	0	1	4
Defence	14	15	5	34	Resourcefulness	1	1	0	2
Religious Practice	20	11	9	40	Equanimity	1	0	1	2
Government	64	80	8	152	MODES OF AWARENESS				
Agriculture, Fisheries	34	21	2	57	Authenticity	1	0	2	3
Law	52	20	6	78	Comprehension	5	1	1	7
CONCEPT FORMATION (STRUCTURE)					Creative expression	1	1	3	5
Sociology	4	2	3	9	Vigilance	0	0	1	1
Management	28	14	5	47	Freedom	8	2	3	13
Informatics, Classification	14	3	2	19					
Ekistics	7	0	2	9					
Cybernetics	11	9	1	21					
Psychology	10	1	2	13					
Economics	39	20	3	62					
Technology	63	26	8	97					
Environment	45	21	1	67					

The presentation below shows the proportion of organizations with offices in Brussels and concerned with selected areas of interest. Only the top ranking 16 areas of interest are included here. Note that an organization may be counted under more than one area of interest. Only organizations of clusters I, II and IV are included here.



International organizations with headquarters in the USA and with a regional office in Brussels – 2007 (ed. 2008/2009)

There are, at the time of writing, 37 international organizations listed in the Yearbook of International Organizations with headquarters, or primary office, in the USA and with a regional, or secondary, office in Brussels.

AIM

Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care International (AAALAC International)

Association of Executive Search Consultants (AESC)

Audio Engineering Society (AES)

Church of Scientology

Church of Scientology International (CSI)

Democracy Coalition Project (DCP)

German Marshall Fund of the United States (GMF)

Global Alliance for TB Drug Development (TB Alliance)

Human Rights Watch (HRW)

ISPE

InterNIC

International Anti-Prohibitionist League (IAL)

International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM)

International Association of Exhibition and Events (IAEE)

International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD)

International Carbon Black Association (ICBA)

International Facility Management Association (IFMA)

International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW)

International Partnership for Microbicides (IPM)

International Policy Council on Agriculture, Food and Trade (IPC)

International Stereotactic Radiosurgery Society (ISRS)

JA Worldwide

Narcotics Anonymous (NA)

Nonviolent Peaceforce (NP)

Search for Common Ground (SFCG)

Semiconductor Equipment and Materials International (SEMI)

Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry (SETAC)

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

World Artists for Tibet

World Association of Management Consulting Firms (AMCF)

World Bank Group

World Federation for Mental Health (WFMH)

World Jewish Congress (WJC)

World Shipping Council (WSC)

Worldwide Marriage Encounter (WWME)

Types of organization

Currently organizations are coded by type as follows:

- A = federations of international organizations;
- B = universal membership organizations;
- C = intercontinental membership organizations;
- D = limited or regionally defined membership organizations;
- E = organizations emanating from places, persons or other bodies;
- F = organizations having a special form, including foundations, funds;
- G = internationally-oriented national organizations;
- H = inactive or dissolved international organizations;
- J = recently reported or proposed international organizations;
- K = subsidiary and internal bodies;
- N = national organizations;
- R = religious orders, fraternities and secular institutes;
- S = autonomous conference series;
- T = multilateral treaties and agreements;
- U = currently inactive non-conventional bodies.

Intergovernmental organizations (IGOs) and Non-governmental organizations (NGOs)

The approach to the selection of organizations for inclusion in this Yearbook was first developed by the Union of International Associations for the *Annuaire de la Vie Internationale* (1908-1909, 1910-1911). It was further developed after 1945 for the early editions of the *Yearbook of International Organizations*. The approach was endorsed by the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (ECOSOC) in 1950 and in 1953.

The Economic and Social Council, in considering these matters in 1950, itself clarified the distinction between intergovernmental and international non-governmental organizations as follows:

Intergovernmental organizations (IGOs)

The view of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations concerning intergovernmental organizations is implicit in its Resolution 288 (X) of 27 February 1950: "Any international organization which is not established by intergovernmental agreement shall be considered as a non-governmental organization for the purpose of these arrangements." The resolution was concerned with the implementation of Article 71 of the United Nations Charter on consultative status of non-governmental organizations, and it was amplified by Resolution 1296 (XLIV) of 25 June 1968: "...including organizations which accept members designated by government authorities, provided that such membership does not interfere with the free expression of views of the organizations."

The matter is complicated by the fact that, pursuant to Article 12 of the regulations of the General Assembly of the United Nations (giving effect to Article 102 of the Charter), the Secretariat publishes, in the UN Treaty Series, every instrument submitted to it by a Member State, when "so far as that party is concerned, the instrument is a treaty or an international agreement within the meaning of Article 102" (Note in UN Treaty Series, Vol. 748). The terms "treaty" and "international agreement" have not been defined either in the Charter or in the regulations. Furthermore: "It is the understanding of the Secretariat that its action does not confer on the instrument the status of a treaty or an international agreement if it does not already have that status ..."

Further complications arise from:

- the increasing number of "international agreements" in which one or more of the parties is a constituent state of a federal state system (e.g. Quebec); this matter was not resolved by the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties (Vienna, 1969);
- bilateralization of treaties when several states act together to aid another state under a "multilateral" treaty signed by all of them;
- agreements in which one of the parties is itself an intergovernmental organization (thus "multilateralizing" the agreement) acting to establish an intergovernmental institute in a particular country (thus "bilateralizing" the agreement), of which the government is one of the parties to that agreement (e.g. many UNESCO agreements with individual developing countries to establish regional research centres);
- agreements signed on behalf of national government agencies or departments which, in the case of purely technical matters, may not fully engage the state; the resulting organizations may then define themselves as "non-governmental".

In practice therefore, the editors assume that an organization is intergovernmental if it is established by signature of an agreement engendering obligations between governments, whether or not that agreement is eventually published. If any organization declares itself to be non-governmental, it is accepted as such by the editors.

Non-governmental organizations (NGOs)

The problem of identifying eligible non-governmental organizations is more difficult. Resolution 288 (X) makes no attempt to explain what is meant by the term “international organization”. Editorial experience has shown that it is useful to take seven aspects of organizational life as indicators of the eligibility of an organization: aims; membership; structure; officers; finance; relations with other organizations; and activities. These aspects are discussed below for different types of organization.

Types A to D: Conventional organizations

Aims The aims must be genuinely international in character, with the intention to cover operations in at least three countries. Hence such bodies as the International Action Committee for Safeguarding the Nubian Monuments or the Anglo-Swedish Society are generally excluded. Societies devoted solely to commemorating particular individuals are therefore likewise ineligible, even if they have made major contributions to the international community.

Members There must be individual or collective participation, with full voting rights, from at least three countries. Membership must be open to any appropriately qualified individual or entity in the organization’s area of operations. Closed groups are therefore excluded, although the situation becomes ambiguous when only one member is allowed per country by the organization, thus effectively closing the organization to other qualified groups in that country. Voting power must be such that no one national group can control the organization. National organizations which accept foreigners as members are therefore usually excluded, as are religious orders or communities governed on a hierarchical basis, and also informal social movements.

Structure The Constitution must provide for a formal structure giving members the right periodically to elect a governing body and officers. There must be permanent headquarters and provision made for continuity of operation. Hence the exclusion of ad hoc committees or the organizing committee of a single international meeting, though standing committees which link a series of meetings are eligible.

Officers The fact that for a period the officers are all of the same nationality, to facilitate management operations, does not necessarily disqualify the organization, but in this case there should be rotation at designated intervals of headquarters and officers among the various member countries.

Finance Substantial contributions to the budget must come from at least three countries. Hence the exclusion of the many “international” unions and societies operating in North America on budgets derived almost wholly from the United States members (see Type G). There must be no attempt to make profits for distribution to members. This does not exclude organizations which exist in order to help members themselves to make more profits or better their economic situation (e.g. trade unions or trade associations); but it does exclude international business enterprises, investment houses or cartels. The distinction between a trade association and a cartel is often unclear; in practice the external relations of the body are used as a guideline.

Relations with other organizations Entities formally connected with another organization are included if there is evidence that they lead an independent life and elect their own officers. Internal or subsidiary committees, appointed by and reporting to one of the structural units of a given organization, are excluded.

Activities Evidence of current activity must be available; organizations which appear to have been inactive for over four years are eventually treated as “dissolved” or “dormant” (and transferred to Type H).

Other criteria No stipulations are made as to size or “importance”, whether in terms of number of members, degree of activity or financial strength. No organization is excluded on political or ideological grounds, nor are fields of interest or activity taken into consideration. The geographical location of the headquarters and the terminology used in the organization’s name (whether “committee”, “council”, etc.) have likewise been held to be irrelevant in the determination of eligibility. Organizations whose names indicate a specialized function (e.g. “foundation”, “tribunal”) are, however, placed in Type F.

Types E, F, G, H and N: Other bodies

Organizations excluded from Types A to D are included in Types E, F, G, H or N for one or more of the following reasons:

- if the available information suggests that it is probable that when further information is obtained the eligibility of the organization for inclusion in Types A to D will be confirmed;
- if the information generally available about the organization (such as in the news media) creates the impression (e.g. by the choice of title, or the image maintained by the organization) that the organization conforms to the above criteria, when in fact further information indicates that this is not the case;
- if it is a bilateral governmental organization which may be confused with multilateral bodies;
- if it is possible that information on the existence of the organization (e.g. registration in government bulletins, sponsorship of a meeting) may not be matched or followed by any further or ongoing activity;
- if an organization previously in Types A to D appears after several years to be only slightly active or inactive;
- if the secretariat is impermanent or frequently moved to different addresses (with little provision for continuity) so that there is difficulty in maintaining postal contact and little awareness of its existence amongst organizations in the same domain;
- if the organization tends to be cited in specialized directories or intergovernmental studies of international organizations, or if it is held to be “international” by some or makes deliberate efforts to create the impression it is;
- if information about the organization in any way suggests that it should be registered for the benefit of users of directory of “international” organizations.

The effect of this policy is noted below for each of the organizational features mentioned above.

Aims If the title of the organization suggests that the aims may be international in character, it is included. This applies whether or not the activities are concerned with a particular sub-national geographical area or with the link between a particular country and one or more other countries. Organizations which are obviously bilateral are excluded (except in the case of intergovernmental bodies), although national or bilateral organizations with international programmes (e.g. aid programmes) may be included. Organizations whose titles mention the name of an individual, another organization or a place are included here even though they would otherwise be included in Types A to D.

Members If the title of an organization suggests that its membership may be international in character, it is included. Bodies which are clearly national in character are however excluded even if they have foreign members (except bodies which are recognized by an intergovernmental organization for purposes of consultation). No account is taken of the manner

in which members participate in the control of the organization, if at all. Non-membership organizations may therefore be included.

Structure No account is taken of the formal structure, if any. Informal social movements and ad hoc bodies are, however, excluded unless there is a permanent office and continuity over a period of more than a year.

Officers No account is taken of the nationality of the elected or appointed officers of the organization.

Finance No account is taken of the source of the organization's finance. National foundations distributing funds internationally may therefore be included. Profit-making organizations may be included but only when they appear (from the title) to be non-profit-making (and international) in character; multinational governmental enterprises are included. Liner/shipping/freight conferences are only included when the name could be confused with a conventional organization.

Relations with other organizations Bodies which have some special organic or legal connection to another organization (by which they may have been created) are included here rather than in Types A to D. This applies particularly to functional and regional bodies of large organizations, but normally only when the title would appear to imply that they are independent, or where the degree of autonomy is unclear. International non-governmental bodies specially created to coordinate commercial, industrial or professional interests within a common market (e.g. the many such bodies within the European Union countries) are included here for two reasons: first, to the extent that such communities constitute emerging federations, the non-governmental bodies lose their international character; second, some of them are merely subcommittees of other bodies with wider geographical membership.

Activities Evidence of current activity must be available. Organizations which have been in Types A to D at some stage but have since become inactive or have ceased to exist are however included. Organizations in process of formation may also be included.

Other criteria As in the case of Types A to D, no stipulations are made as to the size or “importance”, whether in terms of number of members, degree of activity or financial strength. No organization is excluded on political or ideological grounds, nor are field of interest or activity taken into consideration. The geographical location of the headquarters and the terminology used in the organization’s name have likewise been held to be irrelevant. In particular:

- all organizations incorporating the name of another organization, or a place name, or a person’s name, in their titles are located in Type E (with the exception of some intergovernmental bodies);
- all banks, foundations and funds are located in Type F;
- organizations whose names include a saint’s name (unless they are religious orders and therefore allocated to Type R), together with any unconventional structure, are located in Type F.

Types J, K, R, S, T and U: Special types

Organizations may be included in Types J, K, R, S, T or U because they match a specific profile:

Type K Substantive units within selected complex international organizations. They may have some degree of autonomy and, if further information were available or if they had more independent activities, they might otherwise appear in Type E or F.

Type J Apparently international organizations whose creation has been recently reported or proposed, but for which no further information has been obtained.

Type R Religious orders, fraternities and movements (of which some were included in Type F in earlier editions.)

Type S International conference series, with a distinct name and an established periodicity, which are not the responsibility of any particular permanent organization. These may function as organization substitutes.

Type T Multilateral treaties and agreements which have not given rise to an administering intergovernmental organization. As organizational substitutes they may be considered as “automated organizations”.

Type U Organizations, previously classified as Types E to G, which are either known to have been dissolved or of which there has been no news for several years.