

Fide's International Academic Council

Meeting Minutes, March 26th, 2021

Fide's IAC attendance: Reiko Aoki, Rosario Cospedal, Manuel Desantes, Javier Fernández-Lasquetty, Cristina Jiménez, Christopher Muttukumaru (*Chair of the meeting*), Jorge Padilla, Marie-Pierre Rey, and Derrick Wyatt

Fide: Alvaro Arribas, Cristina Arribas, Victoria Dal Lago, and Carmen Hermida

Apologies for absence: Philomena Murray

Introduction

Fide's International Academic Council (IAC) held this plenary meeting to discuss and establish Fide's cross-border strategy and mission and achieve high-level analysis of current relevant topics in the legal, economic, technological, and scientific field. Fide is continuously evolving and through the collective efforts of Fide's IAC, Fide can continue to strengthen this analysis and collaborations beyond Spain. A strategy and mission statement is published to understand Fide's international ambitions, open to proposals and participation from civil society at the different levels. An example of cross-border thinking is Fide's II International Congress on Nationalism, populism, and identities: contemporary challenges, in April 2022.

Main topics discussed:

1. Fide's International Strategy

a. Why Fide?

- i. Fide Fundacion believes that the best solutions to significant cross-border problems and challenges are born from the joint work of groups of individuals with diverse experience and knowledge: this is how we achieve excellence in analysis. Fide has established a methodology in its problem-solving in Spain. It is now actively working on its international methodology, building on the strengths which FIDE possesses in the legal, economic, technological and scientific fields.
- ii. *Values Fide stands for:* independent and non-partisan, rule of law, democracy, the rules-based international order, multilateralism and social justice, including fairness of opportunities for all peoples, regardless of nationality, national identity, gender or ethnicity.

b. What skills and experience?

- i. FIDE's membership has expertise in the legal, economic, technological, and scientific fields.
- ii. FIDE leads strategic thinking on relevant topics under these four areas, including a blended, multi-disciplinary approach.
- iii. FIDE identifies issues that pose risks and create opportunities in these areas at the international level (EU, European, regional, global)
- iv. FIDE develops high quality thinking and analysis in an international context: proposing and prioritising international solutions.

c. How?

- i. FIDE identifies key decision makers, is pragmatic and focuses on relevant policy issues.

- ii. FIDE intends to establish itself further, as an institution which is a forum for continuous reflection about current topics relevant in the world agenda.
- iii. To deliver on this reflection, Fide will, inter alia, organize debate sessions, draft discussion papers, publish articles of analysis on current topics, hold congresses.
- d. For whom?
 - i. FIDE will lead calls for international action and intends to engage with national governments and international institutions such as the European Union, World Economic Forum, United Nations, political institutions, NGOs.
 - ii. Five year rolling programme, subject to evaluation and renewal, revision, and replacement. Identify risks and opportunities to lead international thinking.
- e. Role of Fide's IAC
 - i. What makes Fide's IAC different as a strategic group working in the international sphere?
 - ii. Fide's IAC is multi-disciplinary in approach; it learns from international collaboration; it develops cross-border thinking and solutions.
 - iii. To collaborate in the design, adoption, update, development and implementation of FIDE's strategy in international affairs.

2. Congress in April 2022 about Nationalism, populism and identities: contemporary challenges

- a. Fide updated IAC members about the progress and developments of the preparatory work and the state of the Working Groups.
- b. Provided a general introduction to the congress and develop the content for Fide's website.
- c. Fide's IAC members to comment on membership for the Working Groups and propose professionals to ensure well-rounded expertise.

Specific proposals from IAC members during the meeting:

1. The IAC should consider the impact of our strategy and actions and adopt a global scope, multi-country and multi-continent;
2. In adopting a global scope for the IAC's deliberations, more thought needs to be given to how the Council should evolve in respect of thinking in respect of Asia and North and South America. It is no part of FIDE's strategy to impose a European model elsewhere. But it is important to be bold in offering solutions to cross-border problems which are capable of being applied globally as well as in the EU and regionally.
3. Each member commits to foster a FIDE 45-minute session discussion per year with the author of a book (written in English) where the author focuses on an issue which highlight the strategy of FIDE. The author of the book commits 3 weeks in advance to the discussion to write a 3 pages document highlighting the conclusions of his/her research.
4. Develop and establish measurable strategic objectives in the short and long term.

Next meeting of Fide's International Academic Council planned for beginning of June 2021, with progress in the strategy and its delivery through written communication.

Fide, 26th of March 2021