



Founded 1966

International Association for Counselling

IAC Project: World Mapping of Counselling



Support Counselling

www.iac-irtac.org





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- **What is Mapping?** Mapping is the compilation of data and information about counselling and counsellors around the world. It includes information on scale and standards of activity. Counsellors play a vital role in the mental health and wellbeing of citizens throughout the world, yet, to date, the numbers of counsellors and the scale of counselling activity globally are both under-researched and under-documented.
- **Why is mapping important?** Generating detailed knowledge about the counselling profession in each of the world's 196 countries will enable significantly enhanced public information, connectivity, advocacy (both national and international), and information sharing, for individual counsellors and the wider profession. This information will raise public and professional awareness of counselling services, aid planning, and enable counselling leaders to strongly advocate for counselling at discussions of mental health and education policy both at world and national levels.
- **Who are the IAC?** IAC is an International NGO with United Nations consultative status. Since 1966 we have worked to advance the development of counselling through practice, education, research, and advocacy initiatives.



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IAC Mapping Work

IAC seeks answers to fundamentally important quantitative and qualitative questions about counselling and its status, availability, education, and development, around the world. Current and future data collection includes:

- A list for each country of: the national, regional, provincial, and state counselling associations, school counselling/guidance associations (if different), and other counselling-related associations.
- Number of members of each counselling, school counselling/guidance, and counselling-related associations.
- A list for each country of the universities and other education and training institutes, and the counselling programmes offered.
- The numbers of students enrolled in the programmes of the universities and other education institutes.
- A list of government-provided counselling services in each country.
- A description of the counselling profession in each country, i.e. development history, current regulatory status/ level of recognition, practice settings, challenges and trends.

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Value of IAC Mapping

There are multiple benefits relating to professional mapping of the counselling profession, including:

- Creating an unprecedented, clear, global picture of the status and developmental stage of the profession.
- Enable significantly enhanced public information, connectivity, advocacy (both national and international), and information sharing for individual counsellors and the wider profession.
- Raises public and professional awareness of counselling services and the profession.
- Aids planning of counselling-related mental health, education, workplace, and social services.
- Enables counselling leaders to move to a far stronger position when advocating both internationally (e.g. at United Nations intergovernmental level), and nationally (e.g. advocating for national regulation) for counselling at discussions of mental health and wellbeing policy.
- Supports international partnership, information sharing, and the development of enhanced international professional networks.
- Allows improved promotion of the contribution of counselling to mental health, education, well-being, social justice, and peace.

Contact Us: If you would like to enquire about supporting the IAC's 'World Mapping of Counselling', please contact the IAC Chief Executive: Naoise Kelly at: ceo@iac-irtac.org

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EDUCATION

MEMBERSHIP

ADVOCACY

CERTIFICATION

PARTNERSHIP

United Nations Consultative Status

IAC - Connecting Counsellors Worldwide

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