



The purpose of the ICA is to promote international development and collaboration in all fields of acoustics including research, development, education, and standardisation.

<http://www.icacommission.org/>

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Dear colleague,

As you may know, the International Noise Awareness Day (INAD) was established by the Center of Hearing and Communication in 1996 to encourage people to do something about bothersome noise where they work, live, and play.

The European Acoustics Association (EAA), an ICA International Affiliate, adopted the idea of an International Noise Awareness Day and some of the member societies started during the last decade to organize specific events in their countries, mainly addressing the young people but also the general public, through the edition and spreading of newsletters, and the organization of lectures, seminars and workshops.

For the current year, the EAA board decided to coordinate these activities and below is some brief information on the celebration of the International Noise Awareness Day 2017 in Europe.

Please let the ICA Board know if there is something similar scheduled in your country for 2017 or has been organized in the past. This information will help the ICA to consider a broader involvement in INAD events for the coming years and especially for the International Year of Sound (IYS 2019).

INTERNATIONAL AFFILIATES

Audio Engineering Society (AES)

European Acoustics Association (EAA)

IberoAmerican Federation of Acoustics (FIA)

International Commission on Biological Effects of Noise (ICBEN)

International Congress on Ultrasonics (ICU)

International Institute of Acoustics and Vibration (IIAV)

International Institute of Noise Control Engineering (I-INCE)

Western Pacific Acoustics Commission (WESPAC)

In 2014 The EAA board decided to coordinate a Pan-European campaign for the celebration of the INAD for 2017. The general idea was to have the European Commission (EC) (Directory General for the Environment - DG Environment) involved in this celebration and broaden the scope of the events to be organized in the European countries for this Day, in order to include the politicians in the group of people to whom the celebration is addressed, explaining to them the necessity for updating European and National legislation on noise control.

Among the events that are finally approved by the EAA board and are underway are:

- A Pan-European competition among young students under a subject related to sound (not necessarily noise). It is expected that the Pan-European student competition will raise the awareness of the youth on problems due to noise.*
- The preparation of systematic courses, workshops, and presentations in schools and other organizations (Museums, Cultural centers etc.) around Europe organized by the National Acoustical Societies aiming at raising the awareness of the students and young people about noise effects in health and well-being.*
- The involvement of the Media in spreading the information on INAD 2017 across the European population as the idea was to have the general population become aware of the noise problems.*
- The organization of a Conference in Brussels (headquarters of the EC) in which, invited speakers would stress out the importance of updating the European legislation and present new findings on health problems due to noise. This Conference is under the coordination of the European Commission and will be held in April 2017.*

It is expected that through the events and the involvement of the authorities in the celebration, politicians will get the message that scientific associations can play an important role in promoting the rights and demands of the people in relation to environmental issues and well-being.

Among the ICA objectives is to spread scientific knowledge about issues related to sound and it is well known that noise is a major problem throughout the world. The participation of the ICA in actions aimed at raising the awareness of the community on noise-related problems is therefore desirable.

We do encourage your society to consider some activities in relation to the 2017 International Noise Awareness Day and please advise the ICA for our future records. Also we would also appreciate advice and suggestion in order to establish an ICA strategy in relation to international noise awareness day going into the future. Please respond to the address of the General Secretary: ICASecGen@icacommission.org

Best regards

Michael Taroudakis
President of ICA