



Election of President of the IUSS

Position Profile Statement and Required Qualifications

As its Senior Officer, the President of the International Union of Soil Sciences (IUSS) will provide leadership, focus and direction both within and outside of the Union. Within the Union, the President, working together with the President's Committee and with the Executive Committee and Council, will be expected to develop and implement strategic directions and actions that take the Union forward and ensure that it is recognised as the pre-eminent international body in the field of soil science. The President will Chair meetings of Council, the Executive Committee and the President's Committee and will be responsible for the proper conduct of the business of the Union.

Externally, the President will represent the Union in international forums, such as the International Council of Science, and will act as its spokesperson in dealings with; the media, National Members of the Union, sister organisations, United Nations entities and government departments as required.

It is important that the person appointed should be an outstanding soil scientist of high international stature and have very strong interpersonal skills to carry out these duties in an exemplary manner. It should also be understood that appointment represents a total of **six (6)** years commitment to the Union by serving two (2) years each as President-Elect (2027/28), President (2029/30) and Past-President (2031/32).

Experience and Qualifications

- Nominees must be internationally recognised for their outstanding contributions to soil science. Evidence of this standing should be supported by information about the quality and extent of their record of research and scholarship through original publications, presentations at major meetings and other relevant activities.
- Nominees should have demonstrated strong leadership and highly-effective interpersonal skills in their activities and, preferably, they should have played an active role within the organisational structure of the IUSS. Nominees should also provide evidence of successful performance of senior leadership roles in their employment and their service to professional and/or scientific societies.
- Nominees must show evidence of the support of their employing institution to undertake this significant and time-consuming series of presidential positions. This documentation should also include a statement that the nominee would be able to spend the time required to perform their IUSS duties effectively.
- Undertakings from an employer, government department or other agency to provide financial support for the nominee are very highly desirable.



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- Each Nominee must be an individual member of good financial standing in a National Society. The National Member must also have a record of good financial standing in the IUSS.
- English is the official language of the IUSS and nominees should possess very effective English language skills and be able to read, write and converse readily in that language.
- All Nominees will be assessed against these criteria

Nominations Process for the Position of President

Nominations are to be made by two Nominators who should be accomplished, highly-respected senior soil scientists, ideally from two different countries. The Nominators should also supply joint or individual supporting statements in their covering letter(s).

The Nominators together with the Nominee must provide the information set out below in the format requested including an important '**Statement of Intent**' plus a full CV. All information submitted by the Nominee must also be provided to the Nominators to ensure that they can perform their task effectively.

Nomination Information

Details of Nominee:

Title, Full Name, Date of Birth, Gender and Nationality

Family information (Optional)

Current position and address plus Email address, Phone and Fax numbers

Language capabilities and level of competence/fluency in each language (this must include a very effective level of competency in English)

Statements attesting the good financial standing of both the nominee and of the National Society of which they are a member

Details of Nominators and Signatories:

Name, Position and Affiliation of both Nominators and evidence of their good financial standing in a National Society Member of IUSS

The Nomination document must be signed and dated by the Nominators and the Nominee who must also indicate a willingness to serve if elected.

The Nomination document must also be accompanied by a letter from the Nominee's employing institution attesting to their knowledge of the nomination and their willingness to allow the nominee to serve, if elected.

Profile of the Candidate:

- Academic background (degrees, level, awarding university, year; awards and prizes: fellowships) (*Maximum of 20 lines*)
- Positions held (period, position, institution) (*Maximum of 20 lines*)



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- Summary of expertise and areas of academic/research interests (***Maximum of 20 lines***)
- Summary of relevant National and International activities (high level Committees, government service, consultancies etc) (***Maximum of 20 lines***)
- Summary of publications (ie total numbers only [not individual titles] of publications in the following categories: a) books and monographs, b) refereed international journals, c) refereed chapters and reviews, d) refereed, published conference papers e) conference papers; citation and *h*-index as given by a reputable, internationally-recognised citation compilation (***Maximum of 15 lines***)
- An important **Statement of Intent** including the Nominee's vision for the IUSS and an outline of what the Candidate intends to achieve if elected as President (***Maximum of 30 lines***)

In Summary

The full nomination package will consist of:

- A covering letter from two Nominators including joint or individual statement(s) of support
- The full 'Nomination Information' as listed above and in the format requested to be provided by the nominee
- The Nominee's CV
- A Letter from the Nominee's employer indicating their approval and ongoing support for the nominee
- Documents indicating financial support for the Nominee, if elected.

Video Presentation

Those nominees who proceed to election need to produce a short video presentation (no more than 5 minutes long) briefly introducing themselves and their background and stating their intentions as President.

In the interests of equity, the video shall be in very simple, home video style. Any videos prepared in this way and submitted will be made available for viewing by IUSS members on the internet.

Full Nomination documentation should be submitted electronically to Prof. Dr. Rainer Horn by 30th March, 2026 (Email: rhorn@soils.uni-kiel.de).

**A copy should also be sent to: Irene Fabbri, IUSS Secretary,
Email: iuss.secretariat@crea.gov.it**



Indicative Timetable for the Presidential Election Process

The projected timetable for the Presidential Election process is as follows:

- Announcements and Call for nominations December 2025 using the IUSS Alerts, plus emails to all National Members for onward distribution to individual member plus posting on the web and any other communication avenues.
- Nomination close 30th March, 2026
- Shortlist of Candidates prepared by Presidential Election Committee by the end of April, 2026 and presented to President.
- Shortlist voted on by Council (1 vote per National Member in good financial standing in IUSS) by end of July, 2026
- Result of Election presented to President and Executive Committee following the conclusion of the vote and subsequently announced to members by email and on the IUSS website
- Report on the process and any issues arising will be presented to Council and Executive Committee before the end of 2026-
- The schedule outlined above may be amended if unforeseen circumstances arise.

Professor Dr. Rainer Horn,
Chair, IUSS Presidential Election Standing Committee