International League of Dermatological Societies
Skin Health for the World

ILDS Board of Directors 2027 - Elections process

The International League of Dermatological Societies (ILDS) is a non-profit charity based in London, United Kingdom (registration number: 1111469) and a company limited by guarantee (registered company number: 05466148) in England and Wales. Board Director elections are conducted in accordance with the ILDS Articles of Association and applicable charity regulations and company law.

1. Classes of ILDS Membership

ILDS Membership consists of three categories:

i. Member Societies

Member Societies are the main/primary national society of dermatology within each country in accordance with the ILDS Articles of Association.

Member Societies can nominate and vote for both Regional and International Directors at the Annual General Meeting in an election year.

ii. Affiliated Societies

Affiliated Societies are international or regional dermatological societies of dermatology or national specialist societies in accordance with the ILDS Articles of Association.

Affiliated Member Societies can nominate International Directors and can vote for Regional and International Directors at the Annual General Meeting in an election year.

iii. Observer Societies

Observer Societies are those societies that are not yet eligible to become a Member Society or Affiliated Society ie. those who meet the criteria but are under 4 years old. This also includes those who have applied for Member / Affiliated Society Membership and have been approved in the year preceding a World Congress of Dermatology (category changes following the WCD year).

Observer Member Societies cannot nominate or vote for Directors, but they are entitled to nominate a non-voting delegate to attend the Annual General Meeting in an election year.

2. The ILDS Board of Directors

The ILDS Board of Directors (the Board) is the governing body of the ILDS. The Board is comprised of the following two types of elected Directors. An individual can be nominated in both categories.

Regional Directors: Two (2) Regional Directors from each of the six ILDS regions designated as follows:

- Africa
- East Asia, South East Asia and Oceania
- Europe
- Latin America (including Mexico and the Caribbean)
- North America (excluding Mexico and the Caribbean)
- West, South and Central Asia

International Directors:

Up to four (4) International Directors with the specific and additional purpose of providing a balance to the ILDS Board in terms of expertise and representation.

Appointed Directors:

The ILDS Board from 26 June 2027-2031 may also consist of the following ex officio Directors (to be approved at the first meeting of the incoming ILDS Board on Saturday 26 June 2027):

- Immediate Past President of the ILDS Board
- President of the 27th World Congress of Dermatology 2031
- Immediate Past President of the 26th World Congress of Dermatology 2027
- Chair of the International Foundation for Dermatology

3. The Purpose of the Elections

The purpose of the elections is to invite eligible ILDS Member organisations to nominate representatives to be elected to the ILDS Board of Directors when vacancies become available due to the retirement of existing ILDS Board Members.

4. ILDS Board Director Vacancies 2027

a. Regional Director Vacancies

In 2027, there will be seven (7) Regional Director vacancies, set out by region below:

- Latin America (including Mexico and the Caribbean) x 1
- North America (excluding Mexico and the Caribbean) x 1
- Europe x 1
- Africa x 2
- East Asia, South East Asia and Oceania x 1
- West, South and Central Asia x 1

In accordance with the Article 28.2 of the ILDS Articles of Association, Regional Directors will serve for a period of eight years.

b. International Director Vacancies

In 2027, there will be one (1) vacancy for the position of International Director.

International Directors are elected from nominated candidates with the specific and additional purpose of providing a balance to the ILDS Board in terms of expertise and representation.

In accordance with Article 28.2 of the ILDS Articles of Association, International Directors will serve for a period of eight years.

5. Process for Nomination and Election of Directors

Before submitting nominations please read 'Submission process for Director nominations' as detailed in the appendix on pages 6-7 of this guidance.

IMPORTANT: *Your ILDS Membership fees must be fully paid to date in order to be eligible to submit nominations.*

a. Regional Director Positions

Each Member Society only is invited to propose up to two (2) candidates (individuals) for each vacancy in the region in which they reside. Affiliated Societies and Observer Societies may not submit nominations for Regional Directors.

31 October 2026: Regional Director nominations open

From 31 October 2026, **Member Societies only** will be invited to nominate up to two (2) candidates (individuals) per region in which they reside via a link that will be shared by email. ***Please note that at least one candidate (one individual) must come from a country other than that of the proposing Member Society*.***

**The exception to this rule is the North America (excluding Mexico and the Caribbean) region which only consists of two countries. Member Societies in this region may nominate two from their own country if they wish.*

The countries assigned to each region can be viewed on the ILDS website by filtering the region.

Nominations will only be accepted via the online form and should be submitted by **09:00 AM UTC on 6 January 2027**. Late nominations will not be accepted.

For each nominee, the nomination form MUST include confirmation of the nominee's approval to be considered, a supporting statement from the nominee, a copy of their headshot, and a brief CV (one A4 page maximum).

The name of the person completing the online vote must also be submitted and they must tick a box to confirm that the submission is approved by the Board of the Member Society.

All ILDS Member organisations will be informed as soon as possible after the deadline that a list of Regional Director candidates is available to view on the ILDS website.

15 February 2027: First round of voting for Regional Director positions

From 15 February 2027, **Member Societies only** will receive an email with a link to vote for up to three candidates for each Regional Director vacancy*. The email will include a link to a complete list of the candidates proposed by Member Societies from each region. The information will be available on the Members' Corner on the ILDS website.

**If only three nominations are received from one region, these three nominees will automatically be shortlisted.*

Voting will only be accepted via the online form and should be submitted by **09:00 AM UTC on 31 March 2027**. Late votes will not be accepted. The name of the person completing the online vote must also be submitted and they must tick a box to confirm that the submission is approved by the Board of the Member Society.

For each of the regional vacancies identified in Condition 4a. above, the three (3) candidates with the highest number of votes will be the candidates to be voted on at the 1st session of the Annual General Meeting that will take place on Wednesday 23rd June 2026 during the World Congress of Dermatology (WCD) in Guadalajara, Mexico.

15 April 2027: Shortlisted Candidates shared by email

All Member organisations will be informed that a list of shortlisted Regional Director candidates is available to view on the ILDS website before the final voting at the 1st session of the AGM.

23 June 2027: Election of Regional Directors

At the 1st session of the Annual General Meeting at the WCD2027 in Guadalajara, all eligible Representatives (from Member and Affiliated Societies only) will vote on the final list of candidates for each of the Regional Director positions. The candidate with the highest number of votes from each region will be elected to fill each Regional Director vacancy and will serve on the ILDS Board for eight (8) years.

b. International Director Positions

Each **Member Society and Affiliated Society only** is invited to propose up to two (2) candidates (individuals) from two (2) different countries per vacancy. Observer Society Members may not submit nominations for International Directors.

31 October 2026: International Director nominations open

From 31 October 2026, ILDS Member Societies and Affiliated Societies can nominate up to two candidates (individuals) per vacancy from two different countries via a link that will be shared by email. ***Please note that at least one candidate (one individual) must come from a country other than that of the proposing Member or Affiliate Society.***

The countries assigned to each region can be viewed on the ILDS website by filtering the region.

Nominations will only be accepted via the online form and should be submitted by **09:00 AM UTC on 6 January 2027**. Late nominations will not be accepted.

For each nominee, the nomination form MUST include confirmation of the nominee's approval to be considered, a supporting statement from the nominee, a copy of their headshot, and a brief CV (one A4 page maximum).

The name of the person completing the online vote must also be submitted and they must tick a box to confirm that the submission is approved by the Board of the nominating Member Society.

All Member organisations will be informed as soon as possible after the deadline that a list of International Director candidates is available to view on the ILDS website.

23 June 2027: Bearing in mind the need for the Board to be balanced and fair geographical representation, as well as encompassing the full range of skills necessary to assist in its activities, the ILDS Board will convene, after the 1st session of the AGM in 2027 when Regional Directors have been elected, to review the list of International Director candidates.

At that meeting, the Board of Directors will select from the nominated International Director candidates, a shortlist of three (3) candidates per vacancy (one for 2027) taking into account the skill sets, experience, and geographical representation of those Regional Directors elected at the 1st session of the Annual General Meeting 2027.

25 June 2027: Election of International Directors

This final list of three (3) candidates will be presented to the 2nd session of the Annual General Meeting 2027 at which time **eligible Representatives of both Member Societies and Affiliated Member Societies will be able to vote**. The candidate with the highest number of votes will serve on the ILDS Board of Directors for eight (8) years.

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Appendix 1 - Submission process for director nominations

Nomination Information, Questions and Nominations Criteria

Regional and International Board Director nominations and the first round of voting for Regional Director positions will take place online. Eligible ILDS Member organisations can submit nominations through the submission of an online form for which the link will be shared via email.

Before starting to complete your nominations online, please review the following information outlined below:

a. Please ensure that the person/people you are nominating are willing to be nominated and are able to carry out the role of ILDS Board Member.

b. Nomination information and questions – please check that you have the information and answers to questions that will be requested when you submit nomination(s) online.

c. Criteria for consideration before making an ILDS Board Director nomination – please ensure that these criteria have been met by the nominating Member organisation and the nominee candidate.

d. Election activity terms and conditions – by submitting a nomination the ILDS Member organisation agrees to abide by these terms and conditions. Failure to comply with these terms and conditions may lead to the elimination of the candidate.

1. Nomination information and questions

Candidate Details:

- Title
- Given Name (First Name)
- Family Name (Last Name/Surname)
- Email
- Phone Number
- Nationality
- Year of Birth
- Address
- Headshot
- 1-page CV
- Supporting statement from the nominee

Nomination Questions:

- Candidate's Memberships (dermatological and related societies) - ***maximum 200 words***
- Candidate's Offices Held and Committee Service – ***maximum 200 words***
- Experience and knowledge that suggests candidate will contribute to the activities of the ILDS – ***maximum 200 words***

Your Details:

- Name of person making the submission
- Confirmation will be requested that the submission is made with the full authority of the nominating ILDS Member organisation's Board

2. Criteria for consideration before making an ILDS Board Director nomination:

Important factors to consider:

- The individual's international activities, reputation and experience. Nominees should be judged on an international (rather than national) basis, considering international reputation, personal experience in congress matters, scientific achievement, and leadership.
- Candidates must be able to understand and speak English, as the official language of all ILDS meetings is English.
- Successful candidates will be required to attend the first ILDS Board Meeting of the new Board which will take place on Saturday 26 June 2027.
- Board Members are not paid.
- Financial ability and time commitment to attend Board Meetings.
    - » Travel (flight/rail) and accommodation to attend one ILDS Board Meeting per year will be borne by the ILDS in-line with the terms outlined in the ILDS Board Travel and Expenses Policy. This meeting is often planned to coincide with a regularly-scheduled international dermatologic meeting, but this cannot be guaranteed. Vaccination, visa and insurance costs are not covered by the ILDS.
    - » Board Members should also be prepared to attend other official ILDS meetings (as scheduled by the Board) at the individual's expense.
- In addition to the time taken to attend Board Meetings, Board Members are expected to devote time throughout the year to ILDS matters such as committee work, conference calls and composition of position papers. Board membership, therefore, is not only an honour but more importantly also comes with responsibility requiring a significant commitment of time and effort. Please refer to our website for a list of the current ILDS Committees.
- Gender (with a view to promoting diversity and balance).
- Experience in World Congress of Dermatology matters.
- Must be able to act/fulfil a financial/fiduciary role for the organisation and have the legal standing to do so.
- Individuals cannot serve on any WCD Bidding Committees for Candidate Cities while they are also on the ILDS Board.
- On completion of a Board Director's term in office, they will be offered, at the discretion of the Board, lifetime status as members of the ILDS Emeritus Council which serves in an honorary and advisory capacity to the ILDS Board.

3. Election activity terms and conditions:

a. No individual from an ILDS Member organisation shall directly contact any of the ILDS Board of Directors regarding nominees for election with the except of communications about practical issues, such as time commitments. Any lobbying of the ILDS Board may disqualify the nominee from further consideration.

b. During the nomination period, nominees may not engage in election-related communications (apart from individual personal communications with colleagues) until the list of candidates has been announced by the ILDS.

c. Once the candidates for Director positions have been announced, information may be disseminated in support of candidates by individuals and candidates may participate in social media discussions. These individuals may not be current ILDS Board Directors. All communications must respect and may not criticise, defame or denigrate other candidates. Candidates cannot fund, or request others to finance, the cost of such communications.

d. Candidates may link their communications to the ILDS election webpage/s.

e. Candidates and those supporting them may not include any Board electioneering content in educational, scientific, or clinical presentations or interviews.

f. Candidates and those supporting them may not distribute items in support of the candidate (e.g. flyers, gifts, badges etc).

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