

# **The mission of International Federation of Human Genetic Societies**

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## International Federation of Human Genetics Societies

Founded in 1996, an international collaboration of professional human genetics societies, the IFHGS ensures that an International Congress of Human Genetics will take place every five years and that a credible forum for the sharing of ideas about human genetics is provided.

Plan to attend...

**ICHG 2021**

**Date to be announced**

Cape Town  
South Africa

Organised on behalf of the International Federation of Human  
Genetics

# Why IFHGS?

- The International Federation of Human Genetics Societies was founded in 1996 to provide a structure to facilitate communication throughout the international community of human geneticists.



- The American Society of Human Genetics (ASHG)
- Asia-Pacific Society of Human Genetics (APSHG)
- East Asian Union of Human Genetics Societies (EAUHGS)
- The European Society of Human Genetics (ESHG)
- The Human Genetics Society of Australasia (HGSA)
- Latin American Network of Human Genetics Societies
- African Society of Human Genetics (AfSHG)

National Societies are “corresponding members”

# The ways to globally promote genetics:

- facilitating communication among the member societies
- developing a consensus on policy matters of international concern and
- transmitting policy statements and opinions to appropriate parties and organizations.

So far, the main action has been supporting the  
ICHG Conferences.

# Could IFHGS do something more?

- Promote genetics in countries with the biggest difficulties relating to access to medical genetic services and to education in medical and human genetics?
  - More fellowships to international congresses?
  - Free video courses?
  - Volunteers to go somewhere to teach/supervise clinics?
  - Affordable student/researcher exchange?



# Could IFHGS do something more?

- Ensure that genetics is performed in an ethically sound way?
  - React to misuse of genetics like genetic discrimination?
  - React to inappropriate advertising of genetic services, including DTC?
  - React to possible inhuman experiments?

# How does this relate to NHGSs?

- Please alert the Executive Committee of IFHGS of possible issues in genetics/genomics needing international discussion
- Make sure that your contact details at IFHGS are correct

Recommended:

**WS09: Inclusion of Diverse Populations In  
Genomics Research and Health Services:  
A Scientific and Health Equity Imperative**

