

Read-Ahead Report
International Advisory Committee
October 9, 2025

- **Growth in Non-US Engagement:**
 - Expansion of AOC chapters outside the United States (Finland and Denmark)
 - Increase in individual international members.
 - Strong participation in non-US events, signaling global interest and relevance.
- **AOC Europe:**
 - Demonstrated consistent success in programming and engagement.
 - Discussion point: Can this growth trajectory be sustained in the coming years?
 - Continued investment and strategic alignment to maintain momentum.
 - 2026 and 2027
 - 2026 – May 19-21 – Helsinki, Finland
 - 92% sold (have room to expand if needed); 106 exhibiting companies; 2,061 total sq meters
 - 2027 – May – Lisbon, Portugal
 - 2028 – TBD
- **Support for AOC Asia:**
 - Planning for AOC Asia 2026 and beyond is underway.
 - 2026 – 4-6 August - Adelaide, Australia (co-located with ADSTAR Summit); Hosted by Australia/New Zealand Chapter
 - 2027 – Seoul – in conjunction with ADEX (held every other year)
 - 2028 – TBD
 - 2029 – Seoul – in conjunction with ADEX
 - 2030 - TBD
 - **Challenges**
 - Difficulty in identifying hosting chapters and suitable venues.
 - While Asia does not have a regional defense alliance akin to NATO, countries in the region still prioritize national defense and technological advancement. Events like ADEX demonstrate that Asian professionals will attend international exhibitions when the content is relevant, the location is accessible, and the event fosters bilateral or multilateral engagement. This underscores the importance of local chapter involvement and tailored programming when planning AOC Asia events.
 - **To ensure the success of AOC Asia events, we must:**
 - Solicit feedback from Region II chapters to understand local preferences and constraints.
 - Tailor event formats and locations to accommodate regional sensitivities.
 - Strengthen chapter-level ownership to build trust and relevance within each country.

- **Inclusivity in CONUS Events:**
 - Push to open more US-based (CONUS) AOC events to non-US participation, enhancing global collaboration.
- **Governance Review:**
 - [IAC Charter](#) reviewed and updated. Overview of changes:
 - Emphasis on assigning operational responsibilities to Regional Directors, not the IAC.
 - IAC's role should remain advisory, focusing on analysis and recommendations rather than implementation.
 - Remove IAC's role in fostering international chapter connections - designated as a Regional Director responsibility.
 - IAC should "analyze and provide recommendations" on regional initiatives, not initiate or oversee events.
 - Removal of IAC Chair involvement in U.S.-based shows, citing regional expertise as more relevant.
 - Remove references to Global Conferences Director support - Erik views this as a Regional Director function.
 - OpMan 41 have been reviewed from an IAC perspective.
 - Recommendation: Remove overlapping content and reassign region-specific tasks to appropriate regional directors.
- **Speaker Diversity:**
 - Increasing non-US speaker representation at AOC ISAC events remains a challenge.
 - Establish clear roles and responsibilities for regional directors based on revised governance documents.