

Report from the AILC-ICLA's Nominating Committee

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In preparation for the elections at the 2025 ICLA congress in Seoul, the Nominating Committee (NC) for the 2025–2028 period has consisted of the following members:

Stefan Helgesson (chair)
Kathy Komar
Rita Terezinha Schmidt
Zhang Longxi
Lucia Boldrini (ex officio)

We have convened online on five occasions and exchanged a considerable amount of emails to discuss possible nominees. Calls for nominations have gone out both to the Executive Committee (EC) via email and to all ICLA members through the newsletter.

According to ICLA's current bylaws, the "Nominating Committee shall make every effort to present at least two candidates for each position, excluding the President". This is what we have done, with the exception of nominees for treasurers and secretaries, as agreed with the EC in September 2024.

In our discussions, and in accordance with the bylaws, the NC has agreed that the composition of nominees should aim for geographical representativity, gender and generational balance, and disciplinary diversity. Elected officers eligible for a second term have been asked if they wish to be nominated again. All nominees have also been instructed that they must be in good standing as ICLA members in order to be eligible for election.

In a separate document, you will find the full list of nominees, with bios, that the NC has consensually put together. The nominees were approved by the EC on 7 March 2025. The **confirmed numbers, gender balance (following pronouns used) and geographical location** of nominees for the different positions are as follows:

President (1) – 1 (woman, Asia)

Vice presidents (4) – 6 (even gender balance; 2 North America, 2 Asia, 2 Europe)

Treasurers (3) – 3 (all women)

Secretaries (2) – 2 (2 women)

EC members (18) – 30 (18 women, 12 men; 4 North America, 10 Europe, 7 Asia, 4 Africa/Middle East, 4 South America, 1 Australia)

The geographical labels indicate where the candidates currently are based. In terms of research areas, there is a more equitable distribution. (More than four candidates have a research focus on African and/or Arabic literatures, for example.)