



# **NON-POLITICAL IN POLITICAL TIMES**

IFSA Guidelines

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IFSA - International Forestry Students' Association - <https://ifsa.net> - @IFSAdotnet

The International Forestry Students' Association (IFSA) is a non-political, non-profit, and non-religious organization entirely run by students. While we uphold this statement, we also recognize that no organization can truly be apolitical. Every decision we make, what we prioritize, who we collaborate with, and the values we uphold carries broader societal implications.

For IFSA, being non-political does not mean being indifferent or silent on critical global challenges. We believe in upholding our fundamental principles, some of which include promoting diversity, inclusivity, and the recognition of anthropogenic climate change. We uphold these principles to foster a space where informed discussions, scientific understanding, and mutual respect guide our actions.

Being non-political for IFSA means that we do not endorse any political party. However, it does not mean we ignore the realities of the world we operate in. Climate change, social justice, and global equity are inherently political topics, but they are also issues rooted in science, ethics, and human rights. IFSA remains committed to addressing these challenges by facilitating constructive dialogue, empowering students, and advocating for evidence-based solutions without being partisan. In cases where our stance is not immediately clear, the IFSA Board will make an informed decision guided by our Code of Conduct, strategic framework, and existing policies.

Our position is not a refusal to engage but a commitment to ensuring that all perspectives are heard and that our actions align with our values rather than political affiliations. Through this approach, we create a safe space where students from diverse backgrounds can learn, collaborate, and contribute to a more sustainable and just future.