EDITORIAL

Dear Readers:

Welcome to the second issue of the ICUAS Association Newsletter.

This editorial is written while the COVID-19 pandemic is spreading all over the world. It is our wish and hope that this 'unknown challenge' and 'unknown enemy' ends as soon as possible and with the least number of human deaths. Everything else, except human loss, will be rectified and will return to normal in due time. One thing is certain, though: our society and our communities will become stronger and, for sure, much wiser.

As you know and obviously understand, the COVID-19 pandemic has forced everyone who is involved in organizing and coordinating conferences to create a 'Plan-B', a contingency plan with respect to the actual dates of the conference, taking into account all available data, information, predictions, suggestions, recommendations, and feedback from involved parties and organizations. The central objective is always safety of all participants.

As such, it is with a great sense of responsibility that we have decided to move the actual ICUAS' 20 conference dates to **September 1-4, 2020**. However, there be no changes in deadlines: The final paper upload deadline is May 8. The Technical Program will be ready and uploaded on the web by May 20. The master USB Digital Proceedings will be sent to IEEE by May 31 so that it is uploaded on IEEE Xplore. All updated information, Technical Program, social agenda, venue details, visa information, maps and transportation, may be found in the conference web site, www.uasconferences.com, which will be populated with updated news as needed.

It is also important to emphasize that after the conference we will publish two Special Issues in the *Journal of Intelligent and Robotic Systems*, and in

Unmanned Systems. Authors are invited to submit enhanced versions of their accepted conference papers, with overlap not to exceed 30%, to either journal. A peer review process as with contributed papers will be followed. Authors must include a clear statement about the originality of the work and its novelty in the *Introduction* section of their paper. A footnote must state that a version of the submitted paper has appeared in the Proceedings of the 2020 International Conference on Unmanned Aircraft Systems (ICUAS'20), Athens, Greece. The deadline for paper submission to either of the special issues is September 30. For instructions visit the web sites https://www.springer.com/journal/10846 for JINT, or https://www.worldscientific.com/worldscinet/us for US.





ICUAS' 20 REPORT

This year, in response to the Call for Papers we received a record number of 327 contributed, invited and poster papers. We are happy the Conference is self-supported, healthy, and exhibits steady growth as evidenced by the number of submitted papers over the last seven years. We are pleased that this record number of submissions coincides with the first time the conference is organized outside the United States, in Athens, Greece.

The conference is truly international; just see the Table with the list of 48 countries from which papers were submitted.

Year	Submitted
	papers
2014	193
2015	231
2016	217
2017	306
2018	236
2019	237
2020	327

Algeria	3	Argentina	1
Australia	8	Austria	1
Brazil	16	Canada	14
China	65	Colombia	1
Croatia	4	Cyprus	4
Czech Rep.	2	Denmark	3
Egypt	1	France	13
Germany	10	Greece	22
Hungary	2	India	13
Indonesia	1	Iran	4
Israel	1	Italy	10
Japan	2	S. Korea	6
Latvia	1	Luxembourg	1
Malaysia	2	Mexico	13
Netherlands	3	Nigeria	1
Norway	3	Paraguay	1
Poland	8	Portugal	1
Romania	1	Russia	2
Saudi Arabia	1	Singapore	8
South Africa	1	Spain	11
Sweden	1	Switzerland	1
Taiwan	4	Thailand	1
Turkey	3	UAE	1
UK	6	USA	45

Table: Submissions since 2014 and list of countries from which papers were submitted to ICUAS' 20.

It is this international participation in the conference, over the years, that makes it natural and logical to start 'touring the world' and organize ICUAS in other countries. The plan is, from 2021 onwards, to organize the conference in Canada, South America, South East Asia, as well as again in Europe and in the United States. We will keep you informed; additional information is provided in the Association's web site, www.icuas.com.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

The following links include updated information with respect to unmanned aviation:

Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) https://www.faa.gov/uas/

International Civil Aviation Organization(ICAO): https://www.icao.int/safety/UA

European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA): https://www.easa.europa.eu and, https://www.easa.europa.eu/easa-and-you/civil-drones-rpas

Association for Unmanned Vehicle Systems International (AUVSI): https://www.auvsi.org

Unmanned Vehicle Systems (UVS): https://uvs-international.org/

Updated, additional useful information may be found in https://dronenodes.com, and general news in https://www.commercialuavnews.com.

For information on Reference Drone Systems and Sub-Systems one may navigate through www.rps-info.com, and for information on rules and regulations go to www.rpas-regulations.com.

The 2020 Commercial UAV Expo Americas will take place on September 15-17, 2020, Paris Las Vegas, Las Vegas, NV. Visit https://www.expouav.com/ for details.

AUVSI Xponential is postponed due to COVID-19, visit https://www.xponential.org/xponential2020 for details.

CONTACT US

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