

Our Leadership Associations Matters Even More!

New administrations bring new approaches and new consequences. We are reminded by the new occupants of the U.S. White House Oval Office of how important adaptive and agile leadership has become. Our focus for the past 6 weeks or so has been on the new in Washington, D.C. – the disruption taking place, the ripples of which are being felt around the world. We can reflect that this is also a powerful example of change-at-pace, with which leadership practice must acknowledge and deal. We have had change in the past, and it is likely that other new change-agents will emerge in a continuing and relentless sequence.

This is a time for international associations to be concerned, but also to continue to be curious about the consequences for our work. More than ever, our network of leadership professionals in the International Leadership Association needs to convene and connect within the safe spaces that we value in order to explore and reflect. We need to genuinely deepen our understanding of our common humanity through mutual dialogue and the exchange of knowledge, and we need to reflect on how changing contexts will impact our leadership work and forward strategy. There have been many other moments within the past 80 or so years when those concerned with leadership have needed to do the same.

Many outside of the USA have observed that the version of adaptive leadership we are currently observing in Washington, D.C., appears to have a bottomless appetite for risk. With no longer such thing as failure, leaders feel emboldened to keep experimenting until they “get it right.”

We don't know what the world will look like by October, but we do know we will be at ILA's Global Conference, *Leading Together*, in Prague.

It is there that we will learn from you about your leadership work. How has it been impacted? How have you adapted your research and practice? How is it making a difference? What new knowledge, strategies, and tools will you share with all of us? To draw from ILA's vision, where is “leadership for the collective good of people and planet” flourishing?

We value our community of global leadership professionals and want it to continue to come together to foster collaboration, share information, and explore pathways even, and especially, through challenging and uncertain times.

I hope you can join us in Prague. Registration to attend ILA's 27th Global Conference will open later this month, but if you would like to present, please do submit a proposal by the deadline of 14 March. You can read the complete call for proposals and learn more here:

<https://ilaglobalconference.org>.

We have such a great team in our Conference Chair Danica Purg, ably supported by Program Co-Chairs Richard Bolden and Joshua Haydan, who are leading the conference design and planning for its impact. Let's commit now to meeting in Prague as the international leadership community that we are.

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