

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **What is the International Council of Nurses (ICN)?**

The ICN is a federation of over 130 nursing organisations that represent 20 million nurses worldwide. Find out more [here](#).

### **Why did RCN leave the ICN in 2013?**

The RCN left ICN when the decision to continue membership was put to a vote at the 2013 Annual General Meeting. [The vote in favour of leaving passed at 91.7%](#). The decision was made due to concerns about ICN including their strategy, operational effectiveness and membership model.

### **How much does the RCN currently spend on membership in international alliances?**

- European Federation of Nurses (EFN): £78,533.16
- International Confederation of Midwives (ICM): £1,919.87
- European Public Health Alliance (EPHA): £4,762.29
- Commonwealth Nurses and Midwifery Federation (CNMF): £3,000.00
- European Public Service Union (EPSU): £109,010.04
- European Forum of National Nursing and Midwifery Associations (EFNNMA): (£0) Did not charge the RCN for 2020 membership due to COVID-19.

### **Why are members being asked to vote on re-joining the ICN now?**

Members asked the RCN to engage members on ICN membership at Congress 2019 through a Matter for Discussion. The International Committee and Council have [agreed to consult the membership](#) as to whether views in relation to the ICN have changed since 2013.

### **What happens after the survey?**

The President and International Committee will hold sessions with boards and committees to present the findings, and the International Committee will make a recommendation to Council regarding membership. Council will agree its recommendation and then liaise with members as part of the AGM setting process. The recommendation from Council on whether or not to re-join the ICN will then be discussed and decided by members at the 2021 AGM.