



International
Communication
Association

STATEMENT OF SOLIDARITY WITH THE BLACK LIVES MATTER MOVEMENT

We, the Executive Committee of the International Communication Association (ICA), along with ICA's Task Force on Inclusion, Diversity, Equity & Accessibility (IDEA), stand in solidarity with protesters worldwide calling for an end to anti-Black racism. Alongside these protesters, galvanized by the murders of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery and countless others, ICA unequivocally reaffirms its stance against all forms of racism against people of color that perpetuate hate, intolerance, and injustice. A guiding principle for ICA is to facilitate inclusiveness for people from diverse national and cultural backgrounds and from multi-disciplinary perspectives. As an international organization with members from 87 countries, we recognize that national contexts for injustice, inequity, and imperialism differ from region to region, and that colonialism and its legacy have perpetuated inequities in access to higher learning throughout the world. We further acknowledge that the ongoing pandemic, causing death, major illness, and unemployment has disparately impacted already vulnerable and marginalized communities. Times of disruption offer opportunities for us to recreate and rethink our practices, as well as offer opportunities for tremendous change. We will take this opportunity to catalyze our efforts in improving our commitment to inclusion, diversity, equity, and access, particularly for those who live every day under the threat of racist policies and actions.

Our efforts to enhance inclusion, diversity, equity, and access have been ongoing, and we are committed to continuing work that produces substantive change in the Association. We have not always gotten this right, but we are committed to doing better. We invite you to both assist us in furthering our efforts and to hold us accountable when we fall short.