

GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS – INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE (IRC) REPORT

Reporting Period: July – October 2025

1. Overview

Since becoming Chair in July 2025, the International Relations Committee has continued to strengthen communication among Areas, assist emerging fellowships, support translation projects, and expand outreach to compulsive gamblers worldwide. The IRC currently consists of 12 active members who contribute their time and experience to support GA's international mission. The committee remains focused on GA's primary purpose — to carry its message to the compulsive gambler who still suffers.

2. Contacts with Areas and International Activity

Slovenia: Communication was established regarding the translation and printing of the Blue Book (Sharing Recovery Through Gamblers Anonymous). It was confirmed that the translation of the old Blue Book has been completed. It is understood that new permission is not required for another translation — once permission has been granted by the BOT, the Area may request a PDF version from ISO for translation.

Area 28 (Mexico): Mexico reported the formation of two new groups in cities that previously had no GA meetings — Tampico, Tamaulipas and San Luis Colorado, Sonora — and two additional groups in existing GA cities — Tijuana, Baja California and Monterrey, Nuevo León. Area 28 will hold its Annual Conference from October 23–26 in Puebla, Puebla, expecting around 140 or more GA members to attend.

Nigeria: A compulsive gambler who reached out via the GA website has been connected with members providing regular communication and support. He has been added to a dedicated Africa WhatsApp group created for ongoing assistance.

Israel: A person from Israel who is not a gambler sought help for the wife of an active compulsive gambler. Since the primary concern involved family support, the inquirer was redirected to Gam-Anon Israel for appropriate assistance.

Morocco: A person contacted GA expressing a ten-year struggle with gambling addiction that has intensified in recent years. He is seeking help to begin recovery. The IRC is following up and exploring possible support connections in the region.

Iran: A compulsive gambler from Iran requested information about online GA meetings. Meeting details were provided, and follow-up contact will continue to encourage participation and possible fellowship development in the region.

Lesotho: A compulsive gambler from Lesotho sought help and guidance. Members from our groups have been asked to assist, and further updates will be provided in due course.

Chile: A compulsive gambler from Chile reached out for help and was provided, through the ISO website, with the link to virtual GA meetings available in Chile. This connection ensures access to local support and fellowship.

India (Grace of God Bangalore Group): The GA group “Grace of God” from Bangalore, India, submitted a virtual meeting form requesting recognition and listing as an online meeting on the ISO website.

Dubai (United Arab Emirates): GA members from Dubai requested assistance with registering an in-person meeting. The form was sent and completed for registration on the ISO website.

Russian-Speaking Community: The IRC provided assistance in organizing, and I personally participated in, a two-day online speaker marathon of the Russian-speaking GA community all over the world, held in honor of the 68th anniversary of Gamblers Anonymous. This event brought together members from multiple countries and highlighted the strength and unity of GA’s international fellowship.

3. Translation Progress

Sweden: A group of GA members in Sweden requested permission to translate “Sharing Recovery Through Gamblers Anonymous” and “GA – A New Beginning” into Swedish. Their request was received through ISO with some delay. Since the request was received after the agenda deadline, it has been added to the BOT agenda as a last-minute motion for approval of the Swedish translation, in coordination with ISO.

Slovenia: As noted above, translation of the old Blue Book has been completed. Clarification is in progress regarding next steps for the new edition.

4. Areas Without Elected Trustees

There are currently seven Areas without elected trustees. The IRC proposes reaching out to each to better understand the reasons elections have not been held — whether due to lack of awareness, participation, or communication challenges — and to offer guidance and support to encourage full representation on the BOT.

5. Future Focus and Plans Ahead

- Develop an international outreach and communication strategy to strengthen GA presence and connection globally.
- Facilitate sharing of experience among long-serving and new IRC members to build continuity and mentorship.
- Explore ways to help more compulsive gamblers find GA — in alignment with our Fifth Unity Step: “Each group has but one primary purpose — to carry its message to the compulsive gambler who still suffers.”

Igor K.
IRC Chair