

International Borders Committee Report August 2019

Similar to the Domestic Borders Committee, there are wide parts of a number of countries that don't have representations in the Gamblers Anonymous Fellowship. There is no requirement that every meeting be covered by a BOT designated Trustee; however, should the need arise, someone nearby should be readily available for questions or help.

Although the countries affected by this problem are fewer in number than the involved states in the US, the areas that are not covered, are enormous. The best example is Area 29, which is listed as Moscow, Russia and Surrounding Areas. Russia has 11 time zones. Closer to home, Canada has 6 time zones. To put that in better perspective, the world only has 24 time zones.

This committee will be floating the idea to encourage a realignment of similar situations with other countries into covering the entire country, until such time as more meetings are started and flourishing to then slowly divide the great expanse into smaller segments. This process would be characterized as 'crawl before you walk'.

The committee is also faced with the International influence and impact of the UK version of Gamblers Anonymous, which does not comply with our Guidance Code. Area 36 is the prime example of that in the Republic of Ireland. Should Odie B, the Trustee from that area, be at the Montreal Trustee meeting, please take a moment to get better acquainted with him and the problem this other Fellowship presents to us. The item on the Montreal agenda, for unspoken for areas in GA will also cover the International aspect.

We therefore look to target the Seattle Trustee meeting for our final results, which we hope will be mutually agreeable to all areas/countries in Gamblers Anonymous.

David M. – Committee Chair
Area 12, New Jersey