

Global Voice of Pilots Election Results

ISTANBUL, TÜRKIYE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The International Federation of Air Line Pilots' Associations (IFALPA) has successfully concluded its 80th Conference in Istanbul, Türkiye, with sincere thanks to the Turkish Air Line Pilots' Association (TALPA) for their outstanding hospitality and support throughout the event.

The Conference approved the admission of a new Member Association. IFALPA is pleased to welcome the Latvian Aviation Union (LAU), further strengthening the Federation's global network.

The Conference closed on World Pilots' Day, a global celebration of the professionalism and dedication of pilots, originally established in Türkiye. Marking the occasion, IFALPA President Captain Ron Hay highlighted the importance of continuing the work advanced throughout the week,

"A positive safety culture depends on trust and openness. As we mark World Pilots' Day, we must continue building an environment where pilots can speak up with confidence, because that is how we make aviation safer for everyone."

IFALPA also recognized and thanked several longstanding elected officers whose dedication and service have made a lasting impact on the global piloting community. Their contributions have played a vital role in advancing aviation safety and supporting pilots worldwide.

The Federation welcomed both newly elected and returning officers who are all volunteers. Returning officers were acknowledged for their continued leadership and commitment, while new officers were welcomed for the perspectives and experience they bring to the Federation's ongoing work.

2026 Election Results:

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OFFICERS

President – Cpt Ron Hay, United States

Deputy President – Cpt Akseli Meskanen, Finland

EVP Administration, Membership, & Finance (AMF) – Cpt Omar Gabriel Garcia, Mexico

EVP Technical & Safety Standards (TSS) – Cpt Stacey Jackson, Canada

EVP Professional & Government Affairs (PGA) – Cpt Kevin Judkins, United Kingdom

EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENTS (REGION)

EVP Asia & Pacific (APAC) – Cpt Jaffar Hassan, Singapore

EVP South America (SAM) – Cpt Daniel Bianco, Argentina

EVP Africa/Middle East (AFI/MID) – Cpt Rola Hoteit, Lebanon

EVP Caribbean & North America (CAR/NAM) – Cpt Gregg Hurley, United States

EVP Europe (EUR) – Cpt Paul Reuter, Luxembourg

REGIONAL VICE-PRESIDENTS

NAT – Cpt Lee (LP) Vanstory, United States

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Accident Analysis & Prevention (AAP) – Cpt Jean-Félix Barral, France

Aircraft Design & Operation (ADO) – Cpt Nikolaus Braun, Germany

Aerodrome & Ground Environment (AGE) – Cpt Jeffrey Sedin, United States

Air Traffic Services (ATS) – Cpt Paul Vissers, Italy

Dangerous Goods (DG) – Cpt Timo Lempiäinen, Finland

Helicopter (HEL) – Cpt Matthew Nielsen, Australia

Human Performance (HUPER) – Cpt David Fielding, United Kingdom

Legal (LEG) – Cpt James Ball, Canada

Professional & Government Affairs (PGA) – Cpt Dara van Langen, The Netherlands

Security (SEC) – Cpt Jeroen Kruse, The Netherlands

Women Pilots – F/O Julia Ho, Singapore

OUTGOING EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

EVP Caribbean & North America (CAR/NAM) – Cpt Gilles Boissonneault, Canada

OUTGOING REGIONAL VICE-PRESIDENTS

NAT – Cpt Kathi Hurst, United States

OUTGOING STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Professional & Government Affairs (PGA) – Cpt Arthur Haakonsen, Norway

Women Pilots – Cpt Maria Mar Alguacil, Spain

###

Media Contact: Emily Bitting, Senior Communications Manager, emilybitting@ifalpa.org

Note to Editors: The International Federation of Air Line Pilots' Associations represents 145,000+ pilots in more than 75 countries. The mission of IFALPA is to promote the highest level of aviation safety worldwide and to be the global advocate of the piloting profession, providing representation, services, and support to both our members and the aviation industry. www.ifalpa.org

©2026 The International Federation of Air Line Pilots' Associations. This publication is provided for information purposes only, in all cases pilots should follow their company's guidance and procedures. In the interest of flight safety, reproduction of this publication in whole or in part is encouraged. It may not be offered for sale or used commercially. All reprints must credit IFALPA.