The Blue Shield International Forum

SIGNING UP & SETTING NOTIFICATIONS

GUIDELINES

In response to the desired improvement of communication between committees expressed at this year’s General Assembly, we are excited to introduce you to the newly established Blue Shield International Forum. The forum provides you with a platform where all members of the Blue Shield, including national committees, the Board, and the Secretariat can share information, request assistance, and discuss topics of mutual interest. It is especially a platform where we all can stay in touch regardless of time zones or location.

Nine subjects have been created to structure the forum:
1. BSI Notifications and Information
2. Disaster Risk Preparedness
3. Emergency Response
4. Conflict
5. Illicit Trafficking
6. Country Specific Topics
7. Social Chat
8. Event and Publications Advertisements
9. Other

1. How to sign up for the forum:
1.1. Please sign up with your selected mail address for the forum here:
   https://theblueshield.org/registration/
Your request will be sent to the President of your national committee[*] to confirm you are a member of the Blue Shield.

[*] Presidents/communication officers will be asked to confirm you are a member of the national committee, or can supply us with a list of all members who are allowed access and resend the list annually.

1.2. You will be asked to accept the GDPR and Privacy Policy.¹

1.3. After being approved, you will receive a system-generated login data and the link to the forum with which you can enter the forum here: https://collab.theblueshield.org/
Look into your spam folder in case this email did not reach you.

1.4. Change your password when entering the forum for the first time and set a user name.

1.5. Click on Profile to set a user name -
PLEASE USE THE COUNTRY CODE FOR YOUR NATIONAL COMMITTEE AT THE START OF YOUR NAME:
e.g GB_EmmaC; AT_AnnaPuhr

¹ Available here; https://theblueshield.org/download/policies-for-national-committees/
Then choose Edit, and Edit Profile

2. How to set your notification preferences:

2.1. To follow the activities in the forum, you can activate email notifications. You will be emailed when there is activity on the Forum relating to your preferences.
2.1.1. When you are logged into the forum, click on “Subscriptions”.

2.1.2. Here you can choose between the three options for notifications:

- **Individual Subscriptions** – you will get an email about all activity in all forums and topics you are subscribed to.
- **New Topics** - You will get notified about all new topics that are created.
- **News Topics & Posts** - You get notified about all new topics and posts.

2.1.3. You can choose how you want to be notified about your individual subscriptions.

2.1.4. To adapt your individual subscriptions, click on “Profile”.

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![Forum interface](image1)

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![Subscription settings](image2)

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![Profile interface](image3)
2.1.5. Choose “Edit Profile”.

2.1.6. When you are in your profile:
   Click “Settings” on the top bar
   Then click “Email”

2.1.7. There you can choose your email notification preferences.
3. Guidelines

3.1. The forum is for members of Blue Shield only.

3.2. Forum users can post news, event notifications and discussion topics.

3.3. Advertisement of services is not allowed, though recommendations may be made on request.

3.4. All posts must be relevant, appropriate and respectful.

3.5. Remember that all users will receive every post made and we cannot guarantee the confidentiality of posts made. In general, this forum is not moderated. However, posts which breach these guidelines will be removed. Repeated offenders may have their accounts blocked.

3.6. If you are no longer a member of the Blue Shield, or if you breach the guidelines, the moderators reserve the right to remove your account.

4. The 9 forum subjects

1. **BSI Notifications and Information**
   A place for Blue Shield International to share information with the national committees

2. **Disaster Risk Preparedness**
   A place for information and questions about disaster risk preparedness

3. **Emergency Response**
   A place for information and questions about emergency response that are not time sensitive, for example coordinating shipments of heritage materials to affected countries. Only issues of active response to situations should be here: other situations should be linked under country specific topics.

4. **Conflict**
   A place for information and questions about general conflict-situations and information, for example, military training, international law, and so on. Coordination of responses to situations should be coordinated under Emergency
Response. Issues relating to specific countries should be linked under Country Specific Topics.

5. Illicit Trafficking
   A place for information and questions about illicit trafficking

6. Country Specific Topics
   A place for information and questions about specific countries. Threads should be clearly marked with a title beginning with the country name

7. Event and Publications Advertisements
   Advertisements for events, and publications. These can be Blue Shield, or by colleagues, but they must relate to the aim of the Blue Shield – protecting heritage in crisis. Advertisements of services is forbidden.

8. Social Chat

9. Other

5. Technical support

For technical support please contact
Emma.cunliffe@blueshield-international.org
And I will forward it to our technical support.