

FAQ: MEMBERSHIP REQUEST UPDATES

RadComms has temporarily stopped accepting new members. We plan to start reviewing requests in September 2023.

What is RadComms?

The Radical Communicators Network (RadComms) is a community of practice for social-justice communicators to cross-pollinate discussions across various movements, organizations, levels of experience, geographies, languages, and political associations. This network incubates transnational connections, visionary narrative strategy, and collaboratively-developed frameworks and best practices.

The network is primarily based in a closed online community for social-justice communicators. We also provide resources to a larger audience through our Resource Directory and monthly #RadSessions.

Who can join RadComms?

This network serves to connect left and progressive communications workers within social movements, coalitions, collectives, cooperatives philanthropic organizations, and nonprofits. We welcome people across various movements, organizations, levels of experience, geographies, languages, and political associations. We also welcome organizers, policy advocates, cultural workers, and other movement workers for whom narrative power is a function of your work.

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Does RadComms have a member vetting process?

Yes. We deploy a rigorous vetting process to maintain our network's safety, security, and integrity. We are constantly strengthening this process to combat the long and storied history of left and progressive spaces being co-opted and divided by oppositional forces, detractors, and those who are not values aligned—particularly because our network includes populations targeted by those forces.

The process we have used to vet members for admission into the Network since 2016 exists for three reasons:

1. To keep our members safe from our opposition and detractors eager to co-opt our movement spaces or stir divisions within them;
2. To ensure our consideration of prospective members is equitable—rather than assessing applicants exclusively on credentials, we seek members who approach the group with a strong sense of mutuality and a vision for what they want to both give and receive;
3. And to assess whether there is values-based alignment on the issues and how we engage with one another.

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What kinds of changes are you making to the membership application process?

We are working on strengthening our internal technology and ensuring the intake process is manageable for the RadComms administration as well as those applying. Security for our network and its members is always paramount, and Google Groups (which hosts the ListServ) has significant technological limitations.

Because we want our network expectations and values to be clear for both prospective and active members, we are taking additional time to update our community guidelines and mission. We will ask applicants to review and agree to these materials when completing a membership request.

We are committed to this network growing safely, sustainably, and intentionally. We understand folks are eager to join, and we will open up applications again when we have reworked and tested our new process.