

## As Defined by Merriam-Webster

(Source: <http://www.merriam-webster.com>)

### Association:

- 1*a*: the act of associating *b* : the state of being associated : combination, relationship
- 2: an organization of persons having a common interest: society
- 3: something linked in memory or imagination with a thing or person
- 4: the process of forming mental connections or bonds between sensations, ideas, or memories
- 5: the aggregation of chemical species to form (as with hydrogen bonds) loosely bound complexes
- 6: a major unit in ecological community organization characterized by essential uniformity and usually by two or more dominant species

### Union:

- 1*a* : an act or instance of uniting or joining two or more things into one: as (1) : the formation of a single political unit from two or more separate and independent units (2) : a uniting in marriage; *also* : sexual intercourse (3) : the growing together of severed parts *b* : a unified condition : combination, junction <a gracious *union* of excellence and strength>
- 2: something that is made one : something formed by a combining or coalition of parts or members: as *a* : a confederation of independent individuals (as nations or persons) for some common purpose *b* (1) : a political unit constituting an organic whole formed usually from units which were previously governed separately (as England and Scotland in 1707) and which have surrendered or delegated their principal powers to the government of the whole or to a newly created government (as the United States in 1789) (2) *capitalized* : the federal union of states during the period of the American Civil War *c capitalized* : an organization on a college or university campus providing recreational, social, cultural, and sometimes dining facilities; *also* : the building housing such an organization *d* : the set of all elements belonging to one or more of a given collection of two or more sets —called also *join*, *sum* *e* : labor union
- 3*a* : a device emblematic of the union of two or more sovereignties borne on a national flag typically in the upper inner corner or constituting the whole design of the flag *b* : the upper inner corner of a flag
- 4: any of various devices for connecting parts (as of a machine); *especially* : a coupling for pipes or pipes and fittings

**As Defined by Dictionary.com**  
(Source: dictionary.com)

**as·so·ci·a·tion** [uh-soh-see-ey-shuh n, -shee-] noun

1. an organization of people with a common purpose and having a formal structure.
2. the act of associating or state of being associated.
3. friendship; companionship: Their close association did not last long.
4. connection or combination.
5. the connection or relation of ideas, feelings, sensations, etc.; correlation of elements of perception, reasoning, or the like.

**un·ion** [yoon-yuh n] noun

1. the act of uniting two or more things.
2. the state of being united.
3. something formed by uniting two or more things; combination.
4. a number of persons, states, etc., joined or associated together for some common purpose: student union; credit union.
5. a group of states or nations united into one political body, as that of the American colonies at the time of the revolution, that of England and Scotland in 1707, or that of Great Britain and Ireland in 1801.