### 11 Internal Rules of Procedure

Proposer: FYEG

Agenda item: 6. Statutory Documents

#### **Motion text**

General Principles

- FYEG will have minimal statutes that only contain what legally matters and they
- will be revised in case the Belgian law changes. All other matters will be taken
- 4 care of in the IRPs.
- The IRPs must never contradict the statutes, they can elaborate.
- The IRPs shall be facilitating and helping with decision-making processes as
- 7 well as the organisation of the federation. There shall be no more rules than
- 8 necessary.
- This document shall be accessible to every MO on the website.
- All acts, invoices, publications, official letters and websites, in electronic
- form or not, emanating from the association must mention:
- its full or abbreviated name, immediately preceded or followed by "AISBL" or
- "international non-profit association",
- the precise indication of its registered office,
- its company number,
- the terms "register of legal persons" or the abbreviation "RPM" followed by
- the indication of the court of the registered office of the legal person,
- if applicable, their email address and website,
- the number of at least one account held by the association with a credit
- institution established in Belgium,

- if applicable, the indication that the association is in liquidation.

## 1. Member Organizations

1.1. Membership

- 1.1.1. Membership categories
- The association is made up of member organisations only and has three categories
- of member organisations:
- 27 Full members
- 28 Candidate members
- 29 Associate members
- 30 1.1.2. Membership criteria
- Membership criteria are detailed in the Statutes.
- 1.1.3. Conditions of admission of candidate members
- 33 Conditions of admission of candidate member organisations are detailed in the
- 34 Statutes.
- 1.1.4. Conditions of admission of full members
- 36 Conditions of admission of full member organisations are detailed in the
- 37 Statutes.
- In addition, a candidate member organisation must apply for full membership
- latest at the General Assembly three years after it has received its candidate
- member organisation status. If the candidate member organisation does not apply
- for full membership in the third year of its candidacy, the Executive Committee
- can propose the suspension or exclusion of the candidate member organisation.
- 1.1.5. Conditions of admission of associate members
- 44 Conditions of admission of associate member organisations are detailed in the
- 45 Statutes.

- 1.1.6. Resignation of members
- Conditions for the resignation of members are detailed in the Statutes.
- 48 1.1.7. Suspension of members
- 49 Conditions for the suspension of members are detailed in the Statutes.
- The Executive Committee has a right to propose the suspension of a member
- organisation to the General Assembly in the following cases (not limited to):
- no update or other contact is made between a member and the FYEG Executive
- Committee between two General Assemblies,
- the member organisation doesn't fulfil one or more of the membership criteria,
- the member organisation didn't pay their membership fee,
- major changes that happened in the member organisation, which need to be
- investigated by the EC.
- The suspension of a member means that the organisation loses its voting rights.
- 59 When a member is suspended, the Executive Committee:
- 1. informs the member organisation about the suspension via an e-mail and
- explain the consequences
- 62 2. makes all reasonable efforts to enable the member to regain its full
- 63 membership
- 3. creates a report on this process and presents it at the following General
- 65 Assembly.
- 1.1.8. Exclusion of members
- 67 Conditions for the exclusion of members are detailed in the Statutes.
- The exclusion of an MO means that this organisation is not listed as a member
- organisation anymore and hence loses all of its rights within FYEG. Following an
- exclusion, an organisation that wishes to rejoin FYEG is expected to follow the
- entire membership procedure, as a new organisation would.

- The rejoining organisation is required to inform GA about changes that happened
- in their organisation since leaving FYEG and explanation of their decision about
- 74 rejoining.
- 1.1.9. Suspension and exclusion in case of non-payment of
- 76 membership fee
- 77 The suspension and exclusion of member organisation in case of non-payment of
- membership fee is further detailed in the Statutes.
- 79 1.1.10. Membership fee
- 80 FYEG has an annual membership fee. The ceiling is stated in the Statutes.
- Each full member organisation shall pay an annual membership fee to FYEG. This
- membership fee shall correspond to 1 % of the total incomes of their previous
- year's realised budget with a minimum of 50 EUR for the EU and European Economic
- Area (Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway) and Switzerland and the United Kingdom,
- and 25 EUR for all other European countries.
- By way of derogation to the previous paragraph, the General Assembly may decide,
- in duly justified cases, to lower the amount of the membership fee that a Member
- Organisation shall pay, following a recommendation of the Executive Committee.
- 89 Requests for lowering the Membership fee shall be sent by a Member Organisation
- to the Executive Committee at the latest 2 weeks before the GA.
- Each full MO shall pay their membership fee for the running year on the first
- evening of the GA at the latest, if it has not already been transferred earlier.
- Full MOs are requested to provide their annual budget statement for the previous
- year at the latest. A document listing the amount of the membership fee paid by
- each MO and the way it has been calculated must be annexed to the financial
- 96 report of the year in question.
- 97 1.1.11. Membership reviews
- The Executive Committee presents a review of the FYEG Member Organisations as
- part of the Executive Committee Report. The review can include the following
- information:
- 101 Overview of the region and its meetings and activities,
- The Member Organisations' engagement with FYEG activities during the year,

- Major changes to the Member Organisation.
- In case of major changes (change of organisations' name, split in the
- organisation, merge with another organisation, change of political affiliation,
- etc.), the Executive Committee can propose the General Assembly to vote on that
- change. The General Assembly may, among other options, take note of the change
- or suspend the membership of the organisation to give sufficient time to the
- Executive Committee to look into the situation.
- 1.2. Working with Member Organisations
- 1.2.1. Member Organisation Duties
- Each MO should keep FYEG updated about:
- changes in the board
- valid contact addresses for the MO list and the website
- 115 activities
- 1.2.2. FYEG duties
- 117 FYEG will provide the Member Organisations with:
- information about statutory meetings
- minutes and reports from statutory meetings and long ECMs
- a newsletter containing information and participation possibilities in current
- 121 activities

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- regularly updated contacts of other Member Organisations

## 2. General Assembly

- 2.1. Composition
- The General Assembly is the highest decision body. The General Assembly is
- composed of one or two delegates per full member organisation, candidate member
- organisation and associate member organisation.

- MOs should strive to send delegations to GA that are gender-balanced and consist
- of delegates maximum aged 30 years old. If the organisation is unable to find
- delegates within the age limit, they can send older delegates aged 31-35.
- The delegates can be asked to pay a participation fee for the General Assembly.
- People who are employed by FYEG or are members of the FYEG Executive Committee
- cannot be delegates to the general assembly.
- 134 **2.2.** Powers
- The power of the General Assembly is detailed in the Statutes.
- In addition to what Statutes state, a decision of the General Assembly is
- required in the following cases:
- the adoption and amendment of the Activity plan for the upcoming year,
- the adoption and amendment of Resolutions,
- the election of the Financial Control and Advisory Committee,
- the election of the Editorial Board of Ecosprinter,
- the election of the FYEG representative to the European Green Party Committee,
- the approval of the Advisory Committee
- the approval of the Presidency of the General Assembly
- Decision about joining (or leaving) membership with other
- organisations/networks
- The General Assembly also hears the following reports:
- 148 Activity Report
- Executive Committee and Secretary General Report
- FYEG's Representative to the EGP Committee

- Ecosprinter Editorial Board report
- Financial Control and Advisory Committee report
- Advisory Committee report
- 2.3. Functioning
- The Administrative Board and the Executive Committee summons the annual General
- Assembly. FYEG Member Organisations are summoned to the General Assembly via
- ordinary mail or e-mail. The convocation contains the agenda, date, time and
- place of the General Assembly.
- General Assembly is presided in line with the Meeting Rules (Annex 1)
- The rules for holding extraordinary General Assembly are detailed in the Statutes.

- 163 Changes to the statutory and internal organisational documents take effect from
- $^{164}$  the first working day after the GA meeting where they were changed, except when
- the GA votes for their immediate implementation through a second vote requiring
- an absolute two-thirds majority. Persons elected by the General Assembly will
- start their mandate from the first working day after the GA meeting where they
- were elected, unless other rules apply for their mandate.
- 2.4. Deadlines and calls
- 170 The call for hosting the General Assembly must be sent out by latest 1st of
- October of every year with a one month deadline. The selection of the hosting
- organisation is done by the Executive Committee.
- 173 The remaining deadlines are structured as follows:
- 174 12 Weeks before the General Assembly the Executive Committee must send out a
- call for:
- 176 Registration
- the executive committee (if applicable)
- the secretary general (if applicable)

the financial control and advisory committee 179 the ecosprinter editorial board 180 the FYEG representative to the EGP committee 181 the presidency 182 10 weeks before the General Assembly: 183 The Executive Committee must also organise an online information session, 184 explaining the functioning of the General Assembly and promoting the different 185 open positions. 186 9 weeks before the General Assembly is the deadline for: 187 applications of presidency 188 6 weeks before the General Assembly is the deadline for: 189 registration of delegates 190 applications of organisations for associate, candidate or full membership 191 applications of Secretary General candidates 192 applications for the FYEG nominee to the EGP Committee 193 4 Weeks before the General Assembly is the deadline for: 194 submission of resolutions 195 196 amendments to the Political Platform, the Internal Rules and Procedures and the Strategic Plan 197 Reports and Plans to be sent out to Member Organisations 198 199 Executive Committee candidates

Financial Control and Advisory Committee candidates

- 201 Ecosprinter Editorial Board candidates
- the submission of proposals to add point to the GA agenda, any such proposal
- must be signed by one-twentieth of the full member organisations, as detailed in
- the Statutes
- In case the number of candidates is less than the number of positions open
- and/or if the gender quota is not met, the Executive Committee will re-open the
- call for additional candidates of the underrepresented gender and/or positions
- with lacking candidates.
- 3 weeks before the General Assembly is the deadline for:
- publication of Candidacies
- publication of Executive Committee recommendations on potential member
- organisations (for full, candidate or associate membership)
- publication of Executive Committee recommendations on exclusion and/or
- suspension of member organisations
- sending the GA agenda, as detailed in the Statutes
- 2 weeks before the General Assembly is the deadline for:
- publication of support for candidates
- 1 week before the General Assembly is the deadline for:
- amendments to the resolutions, Activity Plan and Financial Plan
- Other deadlines:
- The deadline for submitting emergency resolutions must be 2 days before the
- start of the General Assembly. At the end of the General Assembly's first day,
- the assembly sets a deadline for amendments to the emergency resolutions.
- 2.5. Submission of resolutions and amendments
- 225 At the general assembly Full Member Organisations and the Executive Committee
- have the right to submit resolutions, and amendments to resolutions, the
- political platform, the activity and financial plan, the strategic plan, the

- statutes and the IRPs, bearing in mind the deadlines specified under 2.4.
- Support of 3 Full Member Organizations is needed in order to table an emergency
- resolution.
- 2.6. Presidency
- The General Assembly confirms the Presidency proposed by the Executive Committee
- before any other decisions are made.
- The Presidency then:
- chairs the meetings and discussions at the General Assembly
- prepares the resolutions, amendments and voting procedures for the General
  Assembly
- is responsible for taking the minutes of the General Assembly
- The Presidency:
- consists of four to six people who must not be candidates to any positions at the General Assembly.
- can be suspended and simultaneously replaced with an absolute two-third
  majority by the assembly. Such a vote of no-confidence can be demanded by
  at least 5% of the delegates, who must present people for the new
  Presidency.
- 2.7. Participation fee
- A participation fee to the General Assembly can be set up if the Treasurer finds it necessary.
- The following participants of the General Assembly are exempt from paying the participation fee:
- One delegate per Full, Candidate and Associate Member Organisation,

- Executive Committee members 252 the Secretary-General and office 253 members of the Presidency 254 If a full Member Organisation sends a second delegate the participation fee is 255 halved in case at least one of the two delegates self-identifies as women, 256 intersex, nonbinary, trans or agender. Treasurer can grant exemption or lowering 257 of the fee to participant that request it. 258 2.8. Travel reimbursement 259 260 Full reimbursement of travel costs is granted to: • one delegate per full, candidate or associate Member Organisation 261 • Executive Committee members 262 263 the Secretary-General and the office • candidates for the Executive Committee elections 264 • candidates for the Secretary-General elections, provided they have 265 received approval by the pre-selection committee 266 candidates for the FYEG Representative to the EGP Committee, provided they 267 have received approval by the pre-selection committee 268 • members of the presidency 269
  - delegates of organisations applying for candidate membership in FYEG

The Treasurer can decide to reimburse travel costs for:

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- candidates for all open positions
- the second delegate of a full, candidate or associate Member Organisation if at least one delegate self-identifies as women, intersex, nonbinary, trans or agender.

## 3. Election and Voting Procedures

- 3.1. Attendance and voting quorums
- In line with the Statutes, each Member Organisation has the right to attend the
- General Assembly. Only Full Member Organisations have voting rights and each
- Full Member Organisation has two votes.
- 3.1.1. Principles

- In line with the Statutes, the General Assembly deliberates validly only if 50 %
- 283 + 1 of the Full Member Organisations are present or represented. The Statutes
- detail the steps to follow in case the attendance quorum is not reached.
- In line with the Statutes, in principle all decisions in FYEG are taken by a
- simple majority of votes registered for the General Assembly. When voting,
- abstention is always an option. When the vote relates to decisions concerning
- persons or Member Organisations, the ballot is always secret. The voting body
- can decide to have other voting procedures processed through secret ballot.
- 3.1.2. Procedures
- 291 Definitions
- Votes registered at General Assembly the number of Member Organisations and
- their delegates who are registered for the General Assembly and have voted in
- the determination of the General Assembly quorum
- Votes cast the number of votes that were submitted.
- 296 Simple majority
- Majority of the votes cast, i.e. the number of "Yes" votes exceed the number of
- "No" votes.

- Abstentions are not considered in the count.
- Examples:
- Out of 20 votes: 11 yes, 9 no, 0 abstentions: passed; 1 yes, 0 no, 19
- 302 abstentions: passed.
- 10 yes; 10 no; 0 abstentions. not passed. 10 yes, 9 no, 1 abstention: passed.
- 304 Absolute majority
- To pass "yes" should reach the majority (half+1, or half + 0.5 in case of odd
- number) of the number of votes registered at the General Assembly.
- Note that it is number of votes registered, not number of votes cast. This means
- that if less than half of the voters are present and vote, this majority can
- never be reached.
- Examples:
- 20 voters registered: need 11 or more yes votes.
- 21 voters registered: need 11 or more yes votes.
- 22 voters registered: need 12 or more yes votes.
- 314 Simple two-thirds majority
- Two thirds of the votes cast.
- 316 Absolute two-thirds majority
- Two thirds of the number of votes registered.
- Note that it is the number of votes registered, not the number of votes cast.
- This means that if less than two thirds of the voters are present and vote this
- majority can never be reached.
- Examples:
- 20 voters: need 14 yes or more votes.

- 21 voters registered: need 14 or more yes votes.
- 22 voters registered: need 15 or more yes votes.
- 3.2. Election of candidates
- 3.2.1. Principles
- FYEG uses a Single Transferable Vote (STV) electoral system with a standard
- droop quota. Mathematically, this is the next integer larger than V / (n+1) when
- V =the total number of valid votes and n is the number of positions available.
- Specifically recommended is the Scottish STV system.
- 3.2.2. Procedures
- The main principle is to rank all the candidates according to the voter's
- preferences for each candidate. Where 1 is the first preference 2 the second
- preference and so on. Voters can rank all candidates even if the number of
- candidates exceeds the number of positions. Voters can decide to not rank some
- of the candidates even if this means leaving the ballot partially blank.
- Only a completely blank ballot counts as abstention, an abstention counts under
- the exception below.
- If a simple majority of all ballots cast do not rank the candidate with any
- numbers they are excluded from the election.
- 0 All ballots are inspected to determine that candidates have received a
- simple majority of any kind of ranking on cast ballots. If not, they will be
- excluded from the election.
- 1 The candidates who have reached the election quota (i.e. election threshold)
- 345 are elected.
- 346 2 If some positions are still available, the following process starts:
- 2a The left-over votes on candidates reaching the election threshold are
- redistributed according to second preferences, using the Single Transferable
- Vote system of distribution.
- 2b If one or more candidates have reached the election threshold, that/those
- candidate(s) are elected in order from highest to lowest vote count. The process
- then starts again from point (2).

- 2c If no candidate reaches the threshold in this way, the candidate with the
- lowest amount of votes is removed from the election. The ballot-papers that
- ranked this candidate as their first remaining preference are redistributed
- according to their second preference. The process is then restarted (1).
- 2d If, following the calculation of the election result, one or more
- candidates is elected who is ineligible due to quota regulations, these
- candidates (who had the least number of votes) are removed from the pool of
- candidates and the entire election is recalculated. That is to say, the election
- is recalculated, and each time the ineligible candidate would have received a
- preference vote, the vote instead goes to the voter's next preference.
- 363 3.2.3. Exceptions
- 364 At the General Assembly:
- Concerning the Executive Committee elections:
- The spokespersons and the treasurer are elected separately from the rest of the
- 367 Executive Committee positions.
- 368 Concerning the Advisory Committee:
- The newly elected Executive Committee will present the proposed Advisory
- 370 Committee to the General Assembly. The General Assembly ratifies the proposed
- Advisory Committee by a simple majority vote.
- 372 Between General Assemblies:
- Concerning the replacement of a resigned Executive Committee member:
- If an Executive Committee member resigns, a new Executive Committee member can
- be elected to replace them.
- The Executive Committee will publishes a call for candidates for the vacant
- position. Candidates will be elected via an electronic vote.
- Any replaced EC member will have full voting rights in the Executive Committee.
- 3.3. Electronic voting
- The Executive Committee can call for an electronic vote between General

- Assemblies in urgent matters. It is the duty of the Executive Committee to
- provide enough information for the full Member Organisations to make an informed
- decision.
- Each full Member Organisation has 2 votes. When voting, abstention is always an
- option.
- The voting period is set to two weeks with a one week reminder.
- The Statutes, the Internal Rules and Procedures, the Strategic Plan and the
- Political Platform cannot be subject to any electronic vote between the General
- 389 Assemblies.
- Results will be announced within one week after the closing of the vote and
- include detailed information.
- 392 3.4. Tiebreakers
- 3.4.1. Tiebreakers on point of substance
- In the case of a tie between two points of substance, the vote shall be held
- again. If the result is once again a tie, the body voting may choose to vote
- once more, table the discussion to later in the meeting, or decide by some form
- of chance. Note that this paragraph is not intended to apply to ties between
- "yes", "no", or "abstain" where some point of substance requires a majority to
- <sup>399</sup> pass.
- 3.4.2. Tiebreakers relating to elections
- 401 If the tie occurs between two candidates in an election, and only one may be
- elected, a vote shall be held to decide between them. If the result is once
- again a tie, the body voting may choose to vote once more or decide by some form
- of chance. At any point during this, either candidate may choose to withdraw.
- 3.5. Dismissal of elected persons
- 406 3.5.1. Dismissal of Executive Committee member
- Two thirds of the Executive Committee can propose dismissal of an Executive
- 408 Committee member.
- The Full Member Organisations vote on the proposed resignation through
- 410 electronic vote.

- The vote is based on two letters: a letter of justification from the majority of
- Executive Committee members proposing the dismissal and an optional letter of
- defence from the Executive Committee member.
- 414 If at least one third of the full MOs participate in the vote and a two third
- majority is reached the Executive Committee member is dismissed.
- 3.5.2. Dismissal of Secretary-General
- Two thirds of the Executive Committee can propose the dismissal of the
- Secretary-General.An additional General Assembly must then be convened by a
- decision of the Administrative Board under the applicable rules (as set out in
- the statutes), where the Member Organisations vote on both the dismissal of the
- existing Secretary-General, and the election and appointment to the
- 422 Administrative Board of a new interim Secretary-General. The Executive Committee
- has the right to in writing and orally inform the Member Organisations as to why
- they have proposed the dismissal, and the Secretary-General the right to defend
- themselves.
- If quorum is reached (as detailed in the Statutes) and a simple two-thirds
- majority is found at the additional General Assembly for dismissing the
- Secretary-General, the Secretary-General is dismissed. The Executive Committee
- can propose dismissal of the Secretary General, with two-thirds of the votes of
- the members of the EC. The Member Organisations must be notified within 8 days
- about the decision and the Executive Committee must appoint a Secretary-General
- ad interim within 8 weeks after the decision of the Executive Committee. The
- Secretary General ad interim will continue until the election of a new Secretary
- General at the subsequent General Assembly. The new interim Secretary-General
- will take over the mandate over the former Secretary-General, expiring whenever
- the former Secretary-General's mandate would have expired. They have all the
- powers and responsibilities of the former Secretary-General.
- 438 3.6. Gender quota
- In all elected bodies there must be a minimum of 50% of people that self-
- identify as women, intersex, nonbinary, trans or agender.
- If there is only one position in a body, there is no quota. However it is
- encouraged that people that self-identify as women, intersex, nonbinary, trans
- or agender alternate in this position.

#### 4. Bodies

- 4.1. Administrative Board
- In line with the Statutes, the association is administered by an administrative
- board composed of three people, appointed by the general assembly amongst the
- Secretary-General, and members of the Executive Committee, preferably the
- Spokespeople and the Treasurer.
- 4.2. Executive Committee
- 451 The Executive Committee members are responsible for making strategic and
- 452 political decisions about the organisation during their mandate and between
- 453 General Assemblies.
- The Executive Committee is composed of eight people:
- who are elected by the General Assembly with a one-year mandate
- 456 whose mandate can be renewed three times
- in case of by-election, the term only counts as a mandate if it exceeds 9 months
- an EC member can not hold two mandates in the same role
- 459 An EC candidate must not be older than 32 on the year of election.
- 460 A mandate is the period between one Annual GA and the second to next Annual GA.
- Within the EC there are two spokespersons, who must not be from the same Member
- Organisation, the treasurer and five additional members. The gender quota
- applies to the spokespersons.
- The Executive Committee:
- is responsible for the relations with the Member Organisations,
- has the right to make statements on behalf of FYEG, in line with the political
- 467 platform
- oversees the implementation of the activity plan as decided by the General
- 469 Assembly
- 470 receives and handles applications from organisations that wish to join FYEG and

- 471 produces a report for the General Assembly including voting recommendation
- can engage FYEG in partnerships with external movements, networks and
- 473 organisations
- select members of non-elected temporary bodies and provides political support to
- them (such as the prep-teams, working groups, task forces etc.)
- The Executive Committee members represent FYEG to its partners, member
- organisations and other stakeholders.
- 4.2.1. Spokespeople
- The Spokespersons:
- 480 Coordinate the Executive Committee
- 481 Represent FYEG to the public and are a contact point for people from outside the
- 482 Federation.
- Represent FYEG with the Partners and attend European Green Party Committee
- 484 meetings
- 485 Are responsible for the secretariat
- The mandate of the spokespersons is further stated in the internal delegation
- order of FYEG, adopted by the Executive Committee on an annual basis.
- 488 4.2.2. Treasurer
- The Treasurer is responsible for the yearly budget of FYEG. The treasurer works
- closely together with the Secretary General and the Office, that ensures the
- daily financial management of the organisation. The treasurer:
- 492 prepares the financial report to the Executive Committee and to the General
- 493 Assembly
- 494 prepares a budget plan for the General Assembly
- has regular meetings with the Office to check the budget
- 496 The mandate of the treasurer is further stated in the internal delegation order

- of FYEG, adopted by the Executive Committee on an annual basis
- 4.3. Secretary-General
- 499 The Secretary General is elected for a three year mandate at the General
- Assembly. The mandate can only be renewed once. The total duration of the
- mandate of the Secretary-General can not exceed two mandates and the time held
- as "interim Secretary-General" is not counted as part of a mandate.
- The tasks of the Secretary General include:
- the legal representation of the organisation
- Managing the FYEG Secretariat and making sure that each office member fulfils
- their responsibilities and tasks
- Facilitating and assisting the work of the Executive Committee
- Overseeing the HR processes
- Overseeing the execution of FYEG Activity Plan
- overseeing FYEG finances, including fundraising, reporting, handling FYEG bank
- accounts, accounting,
- Making sure that the statutory deadlines and process are respected
- Overseeing the organisation of the statutory activities
- Overseeing FYEG's external communications and campaigns
- Monitoring key political events and policy developments on the European level to
- serve as a resource for FYEG's political work
- Maintaining good contacts with FYEG's partners and Member Organisations and
- other stakeholders
- If mandated by the Executive Committee, the Secretary General can externally
- represent FYEG and its position
- 4.4. FYEG's Representative to the European Green Party
- 522 Committee

- As outlined in the Statutes and the Rule Book of the European Green Party, the
- Committee is the executive body of the European Green Party and is responsible
- for its political and strategical development and functioning within the budget
- and the guidelines approved by the Congress. The Committee consists of 13
- members, out of which 4 are elected for specific functions, 8 regular members
- and 1 seat nominated by FYEG.
- The Committee mandate is 3 years. Members may not serve more than three terms.
- The Committee's general tasks and responsibilities are further detailed in the
- European Green Party Statutes.
- FYEG nominates one member to the EGP Committee. Hereafter, this person will be
- referred to as the representative. This representative cannot hold any of the
- four specific posts of the Petit Committee of the European Green Party (Co-
- 535 Chairs, Treasurer and the Secretary General). The nomination of this FYEG
- representative will follow the Committee elections deadlines.
- FYEG's representative is elected at the General Assembly. They must not be older
- than 35 years old at the year of election. They are required to attend at least
- one live Executive Committee meeting every year. Moreover they must submit a
- report to the General Assembly every year, detailing the work that they have
- done in the EGP Committee. They can be asked to attend more FYEG Executive
- 542 Committee meetings and FYEG events to represent the EGP Committee.
- 4.5. Financial Control and Advisory Committee
- At the General Assembly, members of the Financial Control and Advisory Committee
- (FCAC) are elected for a two year mandate.
- The FCAC is composed of two members. Its members must not be members of the
- Executive Committee nor financially depending on FYEG.
- The FCAC's tasks include:
- At least one meeting a year, dedicated to checking FYEG's finances. A written
- report of this meeting must be submitted to the EC, thereby providing an
- internal audit.
- the presentation of this yearly report to the delegates at the GA. The financial
- report that is to be presented to the GA and all other relevant material have to
- be ready and at disposal for the meeting.
- Providing recommendations to FYEG Treasurer and Secretary General regarding the
- financial management and the financial orientations of FYEG.

- It is recommended that the EC and the office share relevant information related to the finances of the organisation to FCAC throughout the year.
- 559 **4.6.** Office
- In addition to the Secretary General, FYEG may recruit employees for its Office.
- In principle, all recruitments are made after an open and public call. The
- decision on the selected candidate is done in line with the internal delegation
- order of the FYEG, adopted by the Executive Committee on an annual basis.
- The Executive Committee adopts "Guidelines and Rules for the Office" in line
- with legal requirements. This document is made available to all employees,
- especially when new employees are recruited.
- Salaries are decided upon in line with the internal delegation order of the
- FYEG, based on the financial plans adopted by the General Assembly.
- 4.7. Advisory Committee
- The Advisory Committee ensures the transfer of knowledge within FYEG and acts as
- a conflict resolution body. It is appointed for two years at the General
- Assembly. The Advisory Committee is composed of 5 members. Action by the
- Advisory Committee is taken only upon request by Executive Committee members of
- other bodies of FYEG. Its tasks are:
- 575 providing their shared experience on a specific subject
- assisting in conflict resolution between Executive Committee members, members of
- other Bodies and/or office
- providing general or specific mentorship for Executive Committee members on an
- individual needs basis.
- If requested by the Executive Committee, advising the Executive Committee on
- organisational and structural matters
- In order to enable the Advisory Committee to fulfil this tasks it is granted the
- following:
- one-way access to the email-list of the Executive Committee throughout the year,
- meaning the possibility to read conversations but not actively take part

- access to the online storing spaces of the Executive Committee, without editing rights.
- attendance at online or offline meetings of the Executive Committee
- During its duty, the Advisory Committee must respect the secrecy of internal
- matters. At the General Assembly, the Advisory Committee must present a brief
- overview of the functioning of the Executive Committee and office. If prompted,
- the Advisory Committee make recommendation within 8 weeks, after oral or written
- consultation of involved parties, and to the best of all members' knowledge.
- Recommendation of the Advisory Committee have to be provided in written form to
- parties involved.
- 4.8. Working Group
- Working groups have the following functions within FYEG:
- helping with the acquirement and create professional documents on current and
- selected topics
- providing the groundwork for the formulation of political positions
- promoting the involvement of Member Organisations and green activists in FYEG
- 602 Working Groups
- providing space for a debate between young Green activists on the European level
- supporting the Executive Committee, office and prep-teams in the organisation of
- events and campaigns
- supporting the Executive Committee and Prep-teams in policy related preparations
- 607 for FYEG events
- Working groups are formed by the Executive Committee, with a defined scope, aim,
- working area and timeframe. This defined scope is outlined by the Executive
- 610 Committee responsible for the working group and working group coordinators at
- the start of the mandate to complement FYEG's priorities. The creation of a
- working group may be planned in the annual activity plan adopted by the General
- Assembly but the Executive Committee may also decide to create ad-hoc working
- groups.
- 615 Working groups must not work against the political platform of FYEG. Further
- details on how to form, manage and communicate Working Groups is detailed in the

- Annex 2 Working Groups Guidelines.
- 4.9. Ecosprinter Editorial Board
- The Ecosprinter is the Member Organisations magazine of FYEG and is created by
- an autonomous editorial board, elected at the General Assembly. The Ecosprinter
- is published online and FYEG should strive for a printed version.
- The mission of the Ecosprinter is to:
- provide a forum for commentary and internal debate
- 624 provide the spaces for blogs and articles of members of FYEG
- inform about European Green policies and politics
- report and comment about culture, politics and discussions they believe are of
- importance.
- The Ecosprinter Editorial Board:
- consist of four members of which only one may be an EC member
- has to be gender-balanced
- can elect an Editor-in-Chief among its members
- work on the mission and development of the Ecosprinter
- In case there is not a consensus within the Ecosprinter Editorial Board on the
- election of the Editor-in-Chief, or an absolute majority, the Executive
- 635 Committee can appoint the Editor-in-Chief. The role of the editor in chief is to
- coordinate the work of the Ecosprinter Editorial Board and ensure that the
- mission of the Ecosprinter is fulfilled.
- 4.10. Conflict of Interest
- In case a decision needs to be taken and a member of an FYEG body has a conflict
- of interest, financial or moral, they must inform the other members of the body
- before the decision is taken and the following procedure applies:
- the nature of the conflict of interest must appear in the minutes of the

- 643 meeting,
- the person with a conflict of interest may not participate in the debate and the vote related to the decision in question.
- except for the Executive Committee itself, the body in question is allowed to delegate this decision to the Executive Committee,
- when the decision is delegated to a second body, the first body may still execute the decision.
- If someone neglects to disclose a conflict of interest, any other member who is aware of the conflict must inform the rest of the members before the debate and decision takes place. Without the member concerned by the conflict of interest present, the body decides by a vote whether or not this member can participate in the debate and the vote. This decision must be mentioned in the minutes of the meeting. The body is allowed to delegate this decision.
- In case the majority of members present or represented are in a position of conflict of interest, the decision must be delegated to the Executive Committee.
- In case the majority of members of the Executive Committee are in a position of conflict of interest, the decision must be delegated to the General Assembly.
- This chapter does not apply when the decision in question relates to usual transactions, entered into under normal market conditions and guarantees for transactions of the same nature.

# 5. Relations with other organisations

- 5.1. General principles
- 665 FYEG may:

- become a member of other organisations/networks
- become a temporary or permanent partner of other
- organisations/networks/alliances
- set up new organisations and networks
- The Executive Committee may take the decision to become a temporary or permanent

- partner of other organisation/networks/alliances. The decision to become a
- member of other organisations/networks or to set up new organisations/networks
- should be approved by the General Assembly.
- Furthermore the EC must:
- provide a list of organisations that FYEG is a member of, as well as a
- description of FYEG's rights and responsibilities and the contact details of the
- concerned organisations
- report at the GA about all the partnerships FYEG has maintained during the year
- and provide details upon request by a MO
- 5.2. European Green Party
- FYEG is the official youth wing of the European Green Party (EGP). Relations
- between FYEG and EGP are further specified in the EGP-FYEG relationship
- agreement.
- 5.3. Cooperation and Development Network Eastern Europe
- FYEG and Cooperation and Development Network (CDN) are sister organisations and
- cooperate together to their mutual benefit. Relations between FYEG and CDN are
- further specified in the CDN-FYEG relationship agreement.
- 5.4. Global Young Greens
- FYEG supports the building and working of Global Young Greens (GYG), striving to
- 690 help GYG with financial and organisational matters.

#### 6. Event Management

692 6.1. Participants

- Participants to an event are selected in line with the internal delegation order
- of the FYEG, striving for gender, age and geographical balance.
- The Executive Committee decides if the event is open to all or only to the
- delegates of Member Organisations.
- The FYEG Safer Spaces Policy and the Anti Sexual Harassment protocol shall be
- communicated and presented to all participants.

- 699 **6.2. Prep Team**
- A Prep Team is a temporary bodies, created for the planning, organisation and follow-up of specific projects.
- A Prep Team is set up via an open call procedure.
- 703 In line with the internal delegation order of the FYEG, the final decisions on
- the Prep Team's composition and all necessary replacements are done by the
- responsible Executive Committee member. They must always:
- strive for gender and geographical balance
- ensure compliance to specific set of rules imposed by partners and funders
- 708 A Prep Team can take decisions concerning their project independently. If
- needed, a Prep Team can consult the Executive Committee in order to solve
- possible internal problems.
- 6.3. Alcohol and intoxicating substances
- Organisers of the event shall make sure that underaged participants are not exposed to dangerous situations involving alcohol or illegal drugs.
- This shall be ensured by, among others, the following measures:
- Participants below 16 and those for whom it is forbidden by domestic laws, shall
- 716 not consume alcohol or illegal drugs, and one shall not offer any to them. In
- the event that this does take place, all parties responsible must be banned from
- the rest of the programme. Moreover, their respective MO(s) shall be notified by
- the Executive Committee upon violation of these rules;
- Alcohol and illegal drugs shall not be consumed during the official sessions
- part of the programme;
- 722 FYEG shall look into organising sessions and parties in other places than those
- where alcohol consumption is central, such as bars or clubs;
- Members of the Executive Committee and the Prep Team shall lead by example and
- abstain from excessively drinking alcohol and from using illegal drugs during an
- event. Additionally, two people, from either the Executive Committee or the Prep
- Team, should be appointed to stay sober during the programme.

## 7. Financial Management

- The FYEG financial year starts on 1st of January and ends on 31st of December as
- is reflected in FYEG budget. The financial management of FYEG is done through
- the decision-making, execution and control of different bodies in line with
- Belgian law and the delegation order adopted by each Executive Committee.
- 733 FYEG's internal financial management is organised as follows:
- The General Assembly approves of the yearly Budget Report and amends and adopts
- 735 the yearly Budget Plan

- The Executive Committee approves the General Budget Plan and Report presented by
- the Treasurer, before they are submitted to the General Assembly.
- 738 The Treasurer regularly monitors the implementation of the overall budget and
- accounting and keeps the rest of the Executive Committee updated
- The Secretariat manages all the practicalities to realise the adopted budget
- under the supervision of the Secretary-General
- The Financial Control and Advisory Committee (FCAC) monitors and reviews the
- financial reports and plans once per year before they are presented at the
- General Assembly. The FCAC also monitors the financial management processes and
- practices. It submits a report to the General Assembly
- A certified auditor provides an external audit in line with legal requirements.
- 747 7.1. Travel Reimbursements
- The reimbursement rules, procedures and deadlines are shared with the
- participants of each events. Each event and activity has its own rules,
- procedures and deadlines in line with the rules and procedures of the funders of
- 751 the activity.
- 752 As a general principle a person can ask for reimbursement of the travel cost if:
- 753 the participant attended at least 75% of the meeting
- all relevant receipts and proof of travel have been handed in within the
- deadline communicated for each activity

- Exceptions to these rules regarding participants can only be made in
- consultation with the Treasurer.
- 758 7.1.1. Reimbursement practicalities
- Train and other public transport travel costs are reimbursed on the basis of a
- 2nd class ticket or a 1st class if that option is cheaper.
- For night trips over 500 km the couchette fee (2nd class) can be covered
- Bike trips over 10 km are reimbursed by 1 EUR / km with a maximum of the price
- of a second class train ticket and with an absolute maximum of 100 EUR
- For trips where the travel by train or bus takes more than 12 hours, a plane
- ticket will be reimbursed on the basis of an economy class ticket. A plane
- ticket can also be reimbursed if the destination was over 750 km or train-
- traveling is not possible because of pressing time-table reasons.
- Taxi costs will be reimbursed if local transport is not available and if
- requested in advance from the organisers.
- The necessity of using a private car must be justified in writing and approved
- in advance. Travel by car may be reimbursed by 0.2 EUR/km. Depending on the
- activity, specific reimbursement rules may apply.
- Car sharing should be approved in advance and should be cheaper than public
- transportation. The costs have to be documented.
- 775 FYEG uses the official conversion rates of the European Commission for
- currencies other than Euro:
- ec.europa.eu/budget/contracts grants/info contracts/inforeuro/inforeuro en.cfm
- based on the date of expense if no other donor guidelines apply. Exceptions are
- payments with credit cards when the documented conversion rates of the credit
- card company apply based on credit card payments statements.
- 781 7.2. Participation fees
- A participation fee to any activity can be demanded and fixed by the Executive
- Committee, in line with the delegation order.
- 784 7.3. Expenses covered
- 7.3.1. Food and food supplies

- The members of the Executive Committee can be reimbursed for food expenses up to
- maximum 30€ per person for meetings covering an entire day and up to 15€ per
- person for half-day meetings with at least 4 hours of work.
- 789 Food reimbursement for other volunteers are fixed by the participating
- conditions for each event and meeting.
- 791 FYEG can only cover costs for vegetarian and vegan food. At every event, vegan
- food should be offered and its consumption encouraged.
- 793 **7.3.2.** Child care
- If requested and possible child care will be provided for the Secretary-General,
- FYEG Office, Executive Committee members, speakers and Prep Team members in
- order to allow full presence at an event. The child care support can take the
- form of: covering the travel and accommodation costs for an extra person to
- provide child care on the spot during the event, covering the fee for a child
- care professional during the event etc. All the costs should be approved by the
- 800 Treasurer.
- 7.4. Executive Committee Members allowance
- The members of FYEG Executive Committee are entitled to a monthly allowance up
- to a maximum of 100 EUR per month. The FYEG EC members are free to claim the
- allowance depending on their need.
- The allowance is meant to cover preparation and participation in the following
- meetings:
- FYEG activities, including regular EC meetings;
- 808 EGP Committee Meetings and Councils;
- Study Visits to Member Organisations approved by the EC;
- 0ther events or meetings approved by the EC.
- In addition to the monthly allowance, Executive Committee members are entitled
- to reimbursement for their costs for travel, accommodation, food and child care
- costs when travelling, in accordance with the FYEG reimbursement rules.
- Reimbursement for expenses while travelling can only cover expenses for up to
- the limit of 1 day before and 1 day after the event/meeting.

- The EC member in question makes sure the allowance is declared in line with the fiscal rules of their country of fiscal residence. FYEG declines responsibility
- 818 for any tax liability.

# Annex 1: Organisation of the General Assembly

- 820 Application Requirements & Procedures for Candidates
- 821 Applicant Organisations
- Organisations that are applying to become an Associate, Candidate or Full Member
- of the Federation of Young European Greens should send their application to the
- Executive Committee before the deadlines set in the Internal Rules and
- Procedures.

- Their application shall contain:
- a letter signed by their board stating the reason and motivation for their application
- a copy of the original statutes and a translated version in English
- a copy of their political platform (or comparable document) and a translated version in English
- a filled-in questionnaire provided to them by the Executive Committee that includes questions on the number of its members, age limit, list of activities, budget and all other possibly relevant information.
- 835 Executive Committee candidates
- Candidates for the Executive Committee shall provide in their application form:
- Filled-in application form that will be made available online
- A motivation letter,

- An Outline of their plans are for the organisation or their vision for FYEG
- Detailed CV
- Candidates must be proposed by their member organisation and seconded by another FYEG member organisation.
- One nomination letter from the Member Organisation they belong to. If that is not possible the Member Organisation, of which the candidate is from, must provide an explanation for the rejection of nomination and the possible candidate has the right to provide a letter of justification. The letter will be shared with the delegates of the General Assembly. The General Assembly will decide, through a vote by two-third majority, whether this person is admitted as a candidate or not.
- Multiple positions holding
- FYEG strives to have non-cumulation of positions.
- Executive Committee members have to be able to combine their commitments to FYEG with whatever other tasks they may have. Candidates to the Executive Committee have to lay open what other mandates and functions they have.
- 856 Secretary General candidates:
- Secretary General candidates' application must include:
- 858 a CV

- a comprehensive motivation letter, explaining how experiences match the profile, what the candidate thinks they can contribute to FYEG. It should also establish a vision of a European political youth organisation's role. Special emphasis is given to experiences within FYEG and other Young Green Organisations.
  - the contact details of two references, preferably employers, supervisors

or tutors

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Further requirements and procedure:

- A committee for a pre-selection of the candidates will be set up. The committee will consist of 4 people: a current FYEG EC member, a former FYEG Secretary General or office coordinator, one full MO representative and a 4th member (NGO professional worker).
- Only applications including all required documents and sent before the given deadline will be examined taking into consideration both political and professional skills of the candidates. These candidates will be given a written assignment and interview if this is possible.
  - The committee will assess the candidates' experience and skills.
- Candidates will be given a month to campaign and are expected to present themselves at the GA. The final decision on the Sec-Gen of FYEG lies with the final vote of the GA of the organisation.
- In case a candidate is not recommended by the committee, they will still be able to apply for the position and present themselves at the GA, but the candidacy will not be endorsed by the EC.
  - In case the Secretary-General wants to renew their mandate and if by the closing of the deadline for the applications for the Secretary-General there are no other applications received, there is no need for the Selection Committee.
- FYEG's Representative to the EGP Committee Candidates:
- 887 Candidates to FYEG's Representative to the EGP Committee must provide:
- A motivation letter,

- 889 An outline of their plans are for the organisation or their vision for EGP, specifically as FYEG nominee 890
- Detailed CV, highlighting their experiences in FYEG and FYEG Member 891 **Organisations** 892
  - A nomination letter from the Member Organisation they belong(ed) to. If that is not possible the Member Organisation, of which the candidate is from, must provide an explanation for the rejection of nomination and the possible candidate has the right to provide a letter of justification.

#### Further requirements and procedure: 897

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- A committee for a pre-selection of the candidates will be set up. The committee will consist of 4 people: one current/former FYEG EC member, a current/former FYEG Co-Spokesperson, a current/former FYEG Secretary General, and one full Member Organisation representative).
- Only applications including all required documents and sent before the 902 given deadline will be examined taking into consideration both political 903 904 and professional skills of the candidates. These candidates will be given an interview if this is possible.
  - The committee will assess the candidates' experience and skills.
- 907 Candidates are expected to present themselves at the General Assembly. The final decision on the nominee of FYEG to the EGP Committee is made by the 908 General Assembly. 909
- In case a candidate is not recommended by the committee, they will still 910 be able to apply for the position and present themselves at the General 911 912 Assembly, but the candidacy will not be endorsed by the EC.
- Financial Control and Advisory Committee: 913
- Candidates for the Financial Control and Advisory Committee shall provide: 914

- A motivation letter, highlighting their experience in financial management
- Detailed CV
- 917 Ecosprinter Editorial Board:
- Candidates for the Financial Control and Advisory Committee shall provide:
- A motivation letter
- 920 Detailed CV
- 921 Meeting rules to the General Assembly
- These meeting rules regulate the formal sessions of the General Assembly. The
- goal of these meeting rules is to make sure that all participants have an as
- 924 similar understanding of the formalities of the General Assembly as possible.
- 925 Presidency
- The General Assembly is presided over by the Presidency. The Presidency consists
- of four to six people, who must not be candidates to any positions at the
- General Assembly. In line with the Internal Rules and Procedures, the Presidency
- is selected by the Executive Committee by an open-call. The General Assembly
- confirms the Presidency proposed by the Executive Committee before any other
- 931 decisions are made.
- The Presidency should elect a chair among themselves. The Chair is the main
- 933 point of contact for the Executive Committee and the Office during and after the
- General Assembly.
- The chair is responsible for making sure that the rest of the Presidency
- delivers their tasks assigned to them and that all the documents related to the
- General Assembly (adopted resolutions, minutes, votes and voting cards, and
- other adopted documents) are finalised handed over the Office and the Executive
- Committee in the following month after the General Assembly.
- 940 The Presidency:

- chairs the meetings and discussions at the General Assembly
- prepares the resolutions, amendments and voting procedures for the General

  Assembly
- is responsible for taking the minutes of the General Assembly
- decides who speaks, who takes part in discussion and who can also be suspended from discussions.
- Can call emergency sessions to the agenda. However this change would need confirmation by a simple two-thirds majority of the full members.

#### 949 Agenda:

- The agenda of the General Assembly is adopted with a simple majority on the first day of the General Assembly.
- In line with the Statutes, if the member organisations want to add a point to
- the General Assembly agenda, they should communicate it to the Executive
- Committee at least 10 days in advance and their proposal must be signed by one-
- 955 twentieth of the full members.
- The agenda can only be changed with a simple two-thirds majority of the full
- members. Proposed changes to the agenda have to be presented in written form to
- 958 the presidency.
- Documents that are noted, amended, approved, disapproved at the General
- 960 Assembly:
- The power and the role of the General Assembly is detailed in the Internal Rules
- 962 and Procedures.
- The Executive Committee, the Secretary General, the Ecosprinter Editorial Board,
- the Financial Control and Advisory Committee and the Advisory Committee presents
- their reports for the previous years. These reports are heard by the GA, not
- 966 voted.

- The Treasurer presents the annual accounts and financial report of the previous financial year and the budget and the financial plan of the upcoming year. These
- documents can be amended and voted.
- The Executive Committee presents the Activity Plan and the Strategy Plan (if applicable) for the upcoming year(s). These documents can be amended and voted.
- The deadlines for presenting and amending these documents are detailed in the
- 973 Internal Rules and Procedures.
- The Presidency is responsible for organising Compromise Amendment Sessions (CAS)
- to try and find compromises on amendments, so that documents have a higher
- 976 chance of being adopted.
- 977 Compromise Amendment Sessions (CAS):
- The Compromise Amendment Sessions are called CAS in short. Everyone who has
- 979 speaking rights at the General Assembly can attend the compromise amendment
- session, and it's advised that all member organisations with voting rights do
- 981 **SO.**
- Compromises are made between the member organisations or the body that proposed
- the original document and the member organisations or the body that proposed the
- amendment subject to compromise. It is advised to include other interested
- Member Organisations in this compromise process so as to further broaden
- 986 consensus.
- Amendments to existing documents (Statutes, Internal Rules and Procedures,
- Political Platform) are only subjected to compromise if the compromise is in the
- 989 scope of an already submitted amendments. The Presidency may declare a
- compromise amendment ineligible if its scope is different from the original
- 991 amendment.
- During the Compromise Amendment Session, the proposer of the resolution presents
- their resolution. The proposer of the amendment presents their amendment. At
- 994 this point other parties can declare their positions towards the amendment. The
- proposer of the resolution can adapt the amendments or seek a compromise. If a
- compromise is reached, it is shared with the delegates of the General Assembly.
- Unless a Full Member Organisation or the Executive Committee disputes the
- ompromise, it is considered adopted. If the compromise is disputed, the
- compromise will be sought until the last day of the General Assembly.
- 1000 It is encouraged that the CAS sessions are organised in advance of the General
- Assembly, following the deadline for amendments which is one week before the

- General Assembly. The CAS session can happen online.
- In the voting, firstly the compromised amendments on the document as whole are voted. Afterwards, the document itself is voted on.

#### 1005 Resolutions

- Each resolution should have an international and/or European angle
- Each resolution should be supported by at least one Member Organisation
- A resolution should always have a call to action
- A resolution should preferably be around 5,000 characters but definitely not more than 10,000
- 1011 The Executive Committee can recommend review of certain resolutions to the
- 1012 Presidency.
- 1013 The Presidency can suggest/demand the proposers of the resolution to withdraw
- their resolution or to postpone the resolution to the further General
- 1015 Assemblies.
- 1016 Speaking rights and debates:
- Speaking rights are open to all members of FYEG bodies, and all registered participants of the General Assembly.
- The presidency ultimately decides which individuals are given the opportunity to
- speak.
- 1021 The speaking time for debates is proposed by the presidency at the beginning of
- 1022 every debate based on the content of the debate and the time assigned for the
- 1023 current session in the agenda.
- The presidency can change the assigned speaking time based on the time left of
- the session to better fit the agenda, as they see fit. This might include
- 1026 cutting breaks.
- The General Assembly can overrule (with a simple two thirds majority) the

- presidency's proposals for speaking time. In such cases the new Agenda proposal must be submitted to the Presidency in a written form.
- During sessions where debates will take place, participants will be able to
- submit 'speaker cards' before the session. These cards will note if they are
- 1032 for/against, their Member Organisation and their gender.
- In vue of the received speaker cards, the Presidency will define the speaker
- list. Speakers may still be taken from the floor for balance, but those who
- submit cards will be prioritised
- 1036 The presidency will ensure gender balance on the speaking list. This is done
- through a strict quotation of the list. Only as many men are allowed to speak as
- non-men are on the list. The only exception is if people are on the list who
- haven't participated in the debate up to that point. They will be chosen before
- persons that have already made plenty of contributions.
- The only exceptions to the speakers list are technical points. If someone has a
- 1042 technical point, they must signal the presidency and will be given the floor
- after the current speaker.
- 1044 Types of debate:
- Open debate: The debate is open to speakers willing to speak for or against the
- resolution or amendment being discussed, as well as for contributions that are
- neither opposed nor in favour. This debate is often used during the Compromise
- 1048 Amendment Sessions.
- 1049 Con-Pro: The debate is organised by an alternation of speakers against and for
- the resolution or amendment being discussed. This debate is often used during
- the Voting Session of the amendments that goes to vote and the resolutions.
- It should be noted that all the compromises should be reached before the voting
- session and the point of the con-pro debate is not to reach a compromise but to
- explain the positions. Therefore the presidency is encouraged to do only one
- round of con-pro debates, and if more than one rounds occur time is monitored by
- the presidency to ensure that overall the 'pro' and 'con' sides are both
- 1057 allocated equivalent speaking time.
- 1058 Quorum, voting and majorities:
- 1059 Quorum, voting rules and majorities are defined in the Internal Rules of
- 1060 Procedures.

- 1061 Voting rules and majorities are defined in the Internal Rules of Procedures
- A quorum check will be called before the voting sessions.
- Safer Spaces
- The General Assembly is a space where everybody feels safe, and has an equal
- opportunity to be heard. The Presidency is responsible for chairing the General
- Assembly in line with FYEG's Safer Spaces regulations. The presidency can ban a
- participant for misconduct for the remainder of a session.

# **Annex 2: Working Group Guidelines**

- These guidelines are to serve the Working Groups and the Working Group
- 1070 coordinators.
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- 1072 Working Group rights and responsibilities:
- 1073 Working group functions are detailed in the FYEG's Internal Rules of Procedures.
- 1074 FYEG Working Groups are based on direct democracy and the inclusion of all its
- members. Most of the Working Group meetings happen online, through the channels
- of internal communication available to them. Working Group members can have
- access to usage of the internal communication tools available to FYEG (such as
- online meeting softwares). As set out in the Internal Rules of Procedures, the
- 1079 EC is responsible for setting up a new Working Group and for ending the term of
- a Working Group.
- 1081 Working Groups can (and not only):
- Support FYEG and its bodies in developing policy documents
- Provide feedback to FYEG's internal policies and documents
- Create campaigns
- Create guidelines, templates, training material, and similar material
- 1086 All the Working Group activities must be in line with the FYEG Political

Platform. 1087 1088 Only FYEG's Executive Committee (EC) has the mandate to speak on behalf of the 1089 organisation and engage in partnerships with other organisations. Therefore, any 1090 1091 external communication or partnership request needs their approval. 1092 When the Working Group has a request for content to be shared via FYEG's official channels, firstly, it should be approved by the member of the Executive 1093 Committee responsible for the Working Group (hereinafter EC Responsible). 1094 Moreover, if the Working Group decides to engage in external partnerships, sign 1095 1096 letters of external partners (i.e. organisations other than Green Political Organisations), etc. this must also be approved by the EC Responsible for the 1097 1098 Working Group. Finally, if the Working Group needs support from the FYEG Office in matters of 1099 communication, administration, finances, etc. the Working Group should 1100 communicate a detailed concept, through the Working Group coordinator, to the EC 1101 1102 Responsible in a timely manner. Executive Committee responsibilities: 1103 1104 The EC Responsible is the person appointed among the EC members to be responsible for the Working Group. 1105 1106 They are responsible for: • Initial setup of the Working Group: defining the aims, scope, timeframe, 1107 publishing a call for Working Group members and coordinators 1108 Choosing the first members of the Working Group and the Working Group 1109 1110 coordinators • Meeting with the coordinators to explain their roles and responsibilities 1111 1112 Attend meetings where needed/wanted to (optional) - but in general, it is more important to be aware what they are up to 1113

Keeping track of all their activities and being aware of how the Working

- Group is progressing and what they are up to
- Providing political advice and making sure the Working Group acts in line with FYEG's Political Platform
- Updating the Working Group on FYEG activities related to their topics and purposes
- The EC responsible has the possibility to exclude someone from the Working Group on the recommendation of the coordinators or at least three members of the group. The EC has to be informed of the decision. The person has the possibility to appeal to the Advisory Committee.
- 1124 Working Group coordinator responsibilities
- A working group should have two coordinators, at least one of them selfidentifying as women, intersex, nonbinary, trans or agender.
- If it is impossible to find two coordinators even after the EC responsible's best efforts to do so, an exemption can be made if approved by the FYEG EC. In this case, it is required that either the EC responsible or the Working Group coordinator self-identifies as female, intersex, nonbinary, trans or agender,
- 1131 Working Group coordinator tasks are as follows:
- Set meetings and agendas for Working Group and notifying members of action points afterwards (online Working Group meetings should strive to be planned at least once every two weeks, excluding holidays and exceptional circumstances)
- Set up the main communication channels
- Main point of contact for EC Responsible
- Keep the EC Responsible up to date on what's happening in the Working
  Group

- Keep Working Group members informed and updated on EC's feedback and recommendations
- Steer direction: set priorities, what themes/projects they work on, oversee the work
- Coordinate the creation of a Working Group activity plan, guided be the objectives and goals set out at the beginning
- Set up subgroups (if necessary or desired)
- They do not need to be involved in every single project or attend every meeting, but in their absence should delegate project or meeting moderation to someone else, and keep themselves updated on progress

# **Annex 3: Safer Spaces Policy**

- Safer spaces are evolving and not static. We have high expectations on how we behave towards each other in our meetings, actions and social spaces. Making a space safer means different things depending on the group of people involved as each group has different needs. This policy aims to be considered in every meeting involving FYEG, but the document should evolve as we learn and grow.
- As an organisation we build social relationships inside and outside of meetings and actions. We commit to this Safer Spaces policy wherever we are together, this includes ensuring that ALL spaces are inclusive and harmless.
- If someone violates these agreements a discussion or mediation process can happen, depending on the wishes of the person who was affected. If a serious violation happens to the extent that someone feels unsafe, they can be asked to leave the space and/or speak with one member of the Awareness Group. If necessary, the Sexual Harassment Protocol will be activated.
- 1. Respect! Racism, as well as ageism, GSRM-phobia , sexism, ableism or
  prejudice based on ethnicity, nationality, class, gender, gender presentation,
  language ability, asylum status or religious affiliation is unacceptable and
  will be challenged. FYEG has a zero-tolerance policy with any kind of
  discrimination, even though we acknowledge that there can be different levels in

- a breach of a safe space.
- 2. Be aware of your privileges! Including racial, class and gender privilege
- and/or less obvious or invisible hierarchies. Think about how your words,
- opinions and feelings are influenced and who they might exclude or harm.
- 3. Consent! Respect each other's physical and emotional boundaries, always get
- explicit verbal consent before touching someone or crossing boundaries. Don't
- assume your physical & emotional boundaries are the same as other people's.
- 4. Friendly use of language! Be aware of the language you use in discussion and
- how you relate to others. Try to speak slowly and clearly and use uncomplicated
- language especially when non-natives speakers are involved in the conversation.
- 5. Don't anticipate yourself! Avoid assuming the opinions and identifications of
- other participants.
- 6. Learning; if you don't understand something, just ask. You may be directed to
- a book, website or skill share to learn more. It's ok to make mistakes. Please
- show appreciation for the hard work of others and be considerate when you offer
- 1184 criticism.
- 7. Everyone has their turn; give each person the time and space to speak. In
- large groups, or for groups using facilitation: Raise your hand to speak.
- 8. Calling out; if you have acted or spoken harmfully, even if unintentionally,
- expect that someone will bring this up to you. If this happens, listen and
- reflect on what they are saying even if you think they may be wrong. Don't try
- to absolve yourself of responsibility.
- This policy should be expanded with specific measures and practices to promote
- the creation of safer spaces.
- 1193 Anti sexual harassment protocol
- 1194 FYEG has a zero-tolerance policy on sexual harassment at all its events, within
- all its structures and during all activities. This protocol is applicable for
- those participating in an FYEG activity (General Assembly, Strategic Planning
- Committee, Working Group Meeting or any other activity), members of a Member
- 1198 Organization (MO), or members of an online structure of FYEG, referred to as
- "this organization" from now onwards in this protocol.
- Anyone who is subject to sexual harassment can approach one of the designated

- contact points responsible for receiving complaints of sexual harassment. The 1201 Executive Committee will designate an Awareness Group for anyone presenting 1202 allegations of physical, verbal or online sexual harassment. In accordance with 1203 the IRPs, the Awareness Group will be formed by two persons from the EC who are 1204 of different genders. Additionally, every Prep - Team will designate one person 1205 1206 to be an independent contact person in our projects. However, this person shall 1207 always inform the official contact points if a procedure starts, in the case of 1208 their absence, the main contact will be the Project Manager.
- When one of these procedures is open in the organization, the EC as a whole must be informed of the procedure without details of the people involved or the presented allegations to respect confidentiality. If a case involves someone from the EC, the case will be brought to the Advisory Committee (AC). The Advisory Committee will act as contact points when a case arises, following this protocol. However, the EC will not be informed until a final decision is made.

#### 1215 Important note:

- These procedures will follow general principles such as the privacy of the survivor, confidentiality of the process and survivor's choice and preference.

  We respect the presumption of innocence of any alleged harasser which is why this procedure is in place and has been approved in the General Assembly.

  However, as a feminist organization, we also believe in the principle of
- believing the survivor and putting the burden of the proof on the alleged
- harasser.
- This procedure might be applied to an internal case of a MO if this case is related to FYEG activity or if the people involved take part in any FYEG structure. However, we will not be able to extend sanctions or disciplinary measures beyond FYEG. MOs can however adapt this protocol to their own organization.
- When the designated people receive a complaint of sexual harassment, they shall:
- 1229 1. Immediately record the dates, times and facts of the incident(s);
- 2. ascertain the views of the survivor as to what outcome they want, ensure the survivor feels safe and ensure the survivor is separated from the alleged offender unless the survivor wishes otherwise;
- 3. ensure that the survivor and the alleged harasser understands FYEG protocol for dealing with the complaint;
- 4. discuss and agree the next steps with the alleged survivor, informal, formal

- or outside complaints procedure (police, hospital, embassy, etc.), on the
- understanding that choosing to resolve the matter informally does not preclude
- the survivor from pursuing a formal complaint if they are not satisfied with the
- outcome;
- 5. keep a confidential record of all discussions. Records will be destroyed if
- the alleged survivor requests it, or before the change to a new EC. However, a
- record of sanctions and a brief description of the reason will be kept in a safe
- place;
- 6. respect the choice of the survivor;
- 1245 7. and ensure that the survivor knows that they can lodge the complaint outside
- of FYEG through the relevant country/legal framework.
- 1247 INFORMAL COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE
- 1248 If the survivor wishes to deal with the matter informally, the designated person
- 1249 will:
- Approach the alleged harasser saying that the behaviour is offensive,
- unwelcome and must be stopped;
- Inform the harasser that FYEG has a zero tolerance policy on sexual harassment
- and that disregarding this policy may result in the person's exclusion from the
- 1254 organization
- give an opportunity to the alleged harasser to respond to the complaint;
- ensure that the alleged harasser understands the complaints mechanism;
- facilitate discussion between both parties to achieve an informal resolution
- which is acceptable to the complainant, provided the alleged survivor agrees,
- ensure that a confidential record is kept of what happened;
- follow up after the outcome of the complaints mechanism to ensure that the
- behaviour has stopped and that there is no risk of its repetition;
- And ensure that the above is done accurately and at the latest within 10 days
- of the complaint being made. During events, the procedure shall take place
- within 48 hours.

#### FORMAL COMPLAINTS PROCEDURES

- 1266 If the survivor wants to make a formal complaint or if the informal complaint
- mechanism has not led to a satisfactory outcome for the survivor, the formal
- 1268 complaint mechanism should be used to resolve the matter.
- The designated person who initially received the complaint will communicate to
- the rest of contact points the opening of a formal complaint procedure. The EC
- will be informed of this, respecting the confidentiality of the alleged survivor
- and the allegations. The designated person who initially received the complaint
- will carry out the investigation with the assistance of the Awareness Group and
- 1274 the independent contact person at the moment in which allegations were
- presented, if any. They will help the investigator with the analysis and
- decision making process. A procedure for online harassment shall be developed.
- 1277 The person carrying out the investigation will:
- interview the survivor and the alleged harasser separately
- interview other relevant third parties separately
- decide whether the incident qualifies as sexual harassment within the meaning of this protocol
- produce a report detailing the investigations, findings and any
- 1283 recommendations
- if the harassment took place, decide what the appropriate remedy for the
- survivor is, in consultation with the survivor (i.e. an apology, a change of
- structure, suspension..,)
- follow up to ensure that the recommendations are implemented, that the
- behaviour has stopped and that the survivor is satisfied with the outcome
- if it cannot determine that the harassment took place, they may still make
- recommendations to ensure proper functioning of the organization
- keep a record of all actions taken
- ensure that all records concerning the matter are kept confidential
- ensure that the process is done as quickly as possible and in any event within
- 15 days of the complaint being made

- The general rule is to avoid the presence of the alleged harasser in those
- places/structures in which the alleged survivor moves. It is vital that the
- wishes and needs of the survivors are incorporated into the outcome of the
- 1298 complaints mechanism.
- 1299 A data protection protocol will be developed.
- 1300 OUTSIDE COMPLAINT MECHANISM
- This protocol seeks to create a fast and appropriate response to allegations of
- sexual harassment. However, it does not seek to substitute existing regulation
- and legislation on this issue. We want to make clear that FYEG wants to be fully
- supportive with every decision of the alleged survivor.
- A person who has been subject to sexual harassment can at any time make a
- complaint outside of the organization. Even though this organization cannot
- offer legal advice, the contact point(s) will accompany the person to the
- instance this person prefers (hospital, police, ombudsperson, law courts,
- embassies, etc.) if they request it.
- 1310 SANCTIONS AND DISCIPLINARY MEASURES
- Anyone who has been found to have sexually harassed another person under the
- terms of this policy may be sanctioned. Sanctions may include but are not
- limited to one of the following:
- Verbal or written warning
- Suspension from an elected or non-elected FYEG structure, in line with FYEG
- 1316 IRPs when appropriate
- Dismissal/expulsion
- Depending on the seriousness of the allegations, the EC, upon request of the
- Awareness Group may suspend someone from taking part in any FYEG structure or
- activity during the duration of the process. Confidentiality of the survivor
- will be maintained.
- In case of sexual harassment, violence or discrimination by a member of an
- elected body within FYEG (Financial Control Committee, Advisory Committee or
- Ecosprinter Board) the EC can exclude the offender after consulting the full
- MOs. (cf. 2.2.2). If the case arises within the EC, the Advisory Committee can
- exclude the offender after consulting the full MOs.

- The nature of the sanctions will depend on the gravity and extent of the 1327 harassment. Suitable deterrent sanctions will be applied to ensure that 1328 incidents of sexual harassment are not treated as trivial. Certain serious 1329 cases, including physical violence, will result in the immediate dismissal of 1330 the harasser. 1331 Guidelines for persons of contact 1332 1333 Read the protocol and understand every aspect What is sexual harassment? It is unwanted behaviour of a sexual nature which: 1334 1335 Violates your dignity • Makes you feel intimidated, degraded or humiliated 1336 • Creates a hostile or offensive environment 1337 Sexual harassment "can include, but is not limited to", these examples: 1338 1339 Touching, pinching, stroking, squeezing, or brushing against someone • Leering or ogling 1340 Making LGBTIAQ+-phobic or GSRM (Gender, Sexual and Romantic Minorities)-1341 phobic comments and sexually suggestive signals, winking 1342 • Sending unwanted e-mails, text messages, posting sexually-explicit jokes 1343 or content on FYEG communication channels 1344
  - Making insults based on a person's sex or rating their sexuality

• Sexual comments or jokes

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- Turning work discussions to sexual topics
- Physical behaviour, including unwanted sexual advances, touching and various forms of sexual assault
- Displaying pictures, photos or drawings of a sexual nature
- Remember: Whether harassing intentionally or unintentionally, we all have a
- responsibility to monitor our behaviour and respect each other. Anyone who
- reports an incident has the right to remain anonymous. They also have the right
- to feel safe and respected.
- 1355 Listen and Support
- 1356 It's tough to be prepared when someone tells you that they have been the
- survivor of sexual harassment. Remember, you can only provide support
- Support and understanding are essential. It takes a lot of courage for a
- survivor to share their experience;
- 1360 Try to provide a safe/non-judgmental environment, emotional comfort and support
- for the survivor to express feelings;
- 1362 Let them know that they can talk with you. Listen. Don't rush to provide
- solutions.
- 1364 Believe
- The most common reason people choose not to tell anyone about sexual abuse is
- the fear that the listener won't believe them. People rarely lie or exaggerate
- about abuse; if someone tells you, it's because they trust you and needs someone
- 1368 to talk to.
- People rarely make up stories of abuse. It is not necessary for you to decide if
- they were "really hurt." If the survivor says they were hurt, that should be
- enough
- Believe what the person tells you. It may have been difficult for them to talk
- to you and trust you. Unless proven wrong harassment has happened.

#### 1374 Reassure

- 1375 Sexual assault is NEVER the survivor's fault. No one asks to be sexually
- assaulted by what they wear, say or do. Let the survivor know that only the
- perpetrator is to blame;
- 1378 The survivor needs to hear that fears, anxieties, guilt and anger are normal,
- understandable and acceptable emotions;
- Remember, no one ever deserves to be abused or harassed.
- 1381 Be Patient
- Don't press for details let the person decide how much to tell you. Ask them
- 1383 how you can help;
- Survivors have to struggle with complex decisions and feelings of powerlessness,
- trying to make decisions for them may only increase that sense of powerlessness;
- You can be supportive by helping them to identify all the available options and
- then help them by supporting their decision making process (here refer to the
- protocol).
- The survivor can't just "forget it" or just move on. Recovery is a long term
- 1390 process and each individual moves at their own pace
- 1391 Encourage
- Encourage the survivor to seek medical attention, report the assault, and or
- contact a professional if needed. Remember, the survivor must ultimately make
- the decision as to what to do. They are the experts in their own lives. Don't
- push. Remember, support their choices no matter what they decide.
- 1396 Respect Privacy Confidentiality
- Don't tell others what the survivor tells you. Let the individual decide who
- they will tell. It is important not to share information with others who are not
- involved;
- 1400 If you do need to share information for their safety, get permission by letting
- them know what you will share and with whom it will be shared; ie. the rest of
- contact points in case of a formal complaint

#### 1403 Establish Safety

- An important part of helping the survivor is to identify ways in which the survivor can re-establish their sense of physical and emotional safety. You are a step in the process. Ask them what would make them feel safe and how you can help them accomplish this.
- If the stalking or harassment is ongoing, help them to develop a plan of what to do if they are in immediate danger. Having a specific plan and preparing in advance can be important if the harassment escalates.
- 1411 Things you can say
- It is hard to know what to say to a person when they confide in you. Refrain from asking a lot of questions, instead, support them with these phrases. Let the person know that you believe that they have the strengt and capacity to heal.
- It's not your fault
- I'm sorry this happened
- I believe you
- How can I help you?
- I am glad you told me
- I'll support your choices
- You're not alone
- 1423 Use of inclusive language
- FYEG aims to use language in its communications and its events that reflects the level of English spoken within an organisation of mostly non-native speakers.

# 11 Internal Rules of Procedure

FYEG promotes the use of inclusive and accessible language within the organisation. FYEG attempts to reduce the shame of using simple language. We do this to make sure that everyone feels welcome to participate and contribute.

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# **12** Statutes

Proposer: FYEG

Agenda item: 6. Statutory Documents

#### **Motion text**

Title I - Name, registered office and duration

- Title II Disinterested goal pursued and activities constituting the object
- Title III − Membership
- 4 Titre IV General Assembly
- 5 Titre V Administrative Board
- 6 Title VI Executive Committee
- 7 Title VII Internal Rules of Procedure
- 8 Title VIII Accounts and budgets
- 9 Title IX Dissolution and liquidation
- 10 Title X Final Provision
- Title I Name, registered office and duration
- 12 Article 1 Name and mentions
- The international non-profit association adopts the following name "Federation
- of Young European Greens", in short "FYEG" (hereinafter referred to as "the
- association").
- 17 This name must be mentioned on all deeds, invoices, announcements, disclosures,
- letters, orders, websites and other documents, whether or not in electronic

- 19 form, originating from the association, immediately preceded or followed by the
- words "Association internationale sans but lucratif" or by the abbreviation
- "aisbl" together with the address of the registered office of the association
- 22 and the other statements in accordance with the Belgian Companies and
- Associations Code of 23 March 2019 (hereinafter referred to as 'CAC').

# Article 2 - Registered office

- The registered office of the association is established on the territory of the
- 26 Brussels-Capital Region. The administrative board has the power to move the
- registered office of the association within the same language region in Belgium.
- 29 If, as a result of the move of the registered office, the language of the
- present statutes has to be changed, only the General Assembly shall have the
- power to take the decision to move the registered office of the association,
- taking into account the requirements for a modification of the statutes.
- The competent courts are the courts of Brussels.
  - Article 3 Duration of the association
- The association is constituted for an indefinite period. It can be dissolved at
- any time.

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- Title II Disinterested goal pursued and
- activities constituting the object
- 40 Article 4 Disinterested purpose and object
- The association aims to:
- 1. Build a just, feminist, diverse, inclusive, democratic and sustainable Europe;
- 2. Advocate for and support youth participation in democratic processes and civil society at all levels;
- 3. Empower and support young people to bring forward their perspectives and solutions;

- 4. Provide a forum where young people with green sympathies from all over Europe can engage in meaningful dialogue and cultural exchanges.
- The object, or concrete activities, through which the association can achieve its purpose are:
- 1. Statutory and operational activities necessary to the functioning of the organisation,
- 2. Network activities dedicated to growing and strengthening the federation;
- 3. Capacity building, training and support for its members, their members and other young people in Europe;
- 4. Educational activities such as workshops, seminars, study session, summer camps, intercultural exchanges, etc. targeting its members, their members and other progressive youth;
- 5. Political exchanges amongst its members, with its partners and other stakeholders;

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- 6. Communications and campaigns to raise awareness, propose solutions, 63 influence behaviours, legislation and European policies that affect young 64 people, etc.;
  - 7. To achieve its purpose, the association may receive any material or financial assistance or contribution from legal, public or private persons, or from natural persons. The funds and materials thus collected must be used exclusively for the achievement of the disinterested goal. The association can lend its support and take an interest in all activities similar to its purpose.
- 71 8. The association may also carry out profit-making activities. The profit
  72 made shall at all times be used entirely for the above-mentioned non73 profit and disinterested goal. The association may not, directly or
  74 indirectly, distribute or provide any financial benefit to members,

founders, administrators or any other person, except for the abovementioned disinterested goal. Economic activities are incidental.

# Title III - Membership

- Article 5 Categories of members and general conditions of admission
- The association is made up of member organisations only and has three categories of member:
  - Full members

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- Candidate members
- Associate members
- The association has at least five full members.
- 86 General criteria for membership, are as follows:
- be active on a regional or national level,
- consist mainly of young people,
- subscribe to the statutes and political platform of FYEG,
- function based on democratic principles.
- The association has at least five full members at all times. Members enjoy the
- rights granted to the category of members to which they belong by the law and
- these statutes. The same applies to the duties of members.
- All full members should be legal entities committed to respecting these statutes

and established with legal personality in the country where they are founded according to local laws and customs.

# Article 6 - Register of members

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- The administrative board maintains a register of members at the registered office of the association. This register includes the denomination, legal form and address of the registered office of the members. The administrative board records all decisions of admission, resignation, suspension or exclusion of members in this register within 8 days of becoming aware of the decision. The administrative board may decide that the register will be kept in electronic form.
- Any member may consult the register of members at the registered office of the association. To this end, they send a written request to the administrative board.
- Each member communicates an email address to the association for the purpose of communicating with it. Any communication to this email address is deemed to have taken place validly. The association may use this address until the member concerned provides another email address.

# 112 Article 7 - Liability

Members are not held responsible for commitments made in the name of the association, insofar as all the provisions mentioned in these statutes and also in other agreements between the association and that member were thereby complied with.

#### Article 8 - Conditions of admission of full members

- Full members can participate in the General Assembly, they have speaking rights and voting rights.
- To become a full member the organisation has to fulfil the following criteria:
- comply with the general criteria for membership,
- have been a candidate member for at least one year,

• send an official application to the secretariat of the association. This can be done by ordinary mail or by e-mail sent to the (electronic) address of the association. This application shall include its statutes, the number of individual members, age limits for its members, list of activities, budget, a signed letter of intent to become a full member including a declaration by which it undertakes to respect the disinterested purpose and the statutes of the association, and all other possibly relevant information.

Before applying for full membership, Candidate members should be visited by at least one member of the Executive Committee or the Secretary-General. After the visit and upon reception of the official application, the Executive Committee will review the application for full membership and advise the General Assembly about the application.

The General Assembly then votes on the membership at the next General Assembly.

A candidate member is accepted and thus authorised to join the association as a

full member if an absolute two-thirds majority of the votes cast is obtained.

This decision of the General Assembly does not have to be motivated.

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As soon as the decision concerning the candidate member is known, the secretariat of the association shall inform it of this decision by e-mail. No appeal is possible against this decision.

# Article 9 - Conditions of admission of candidate members

145 Candidate members can participate in the General Assembly, they have speaking 146 rights but do not have voting rights.

Candidate members are organisations who have the ambition, within a certain time frame, to apply for full membership. To become a Candidate member an organisation should fulfil the following criteria:

- comply with the general criteria for membership
- send an official application to the secretariat of the association. This can be done by ordinary mail or by e-mail sent to the (electronic) address of the association. This application shall include its statutes, the number of individual members, age limits for its members, list of activities, budget, the intention to become a candidate member and all other possibly relevant information.
- The Executive Committee will examine the application and will present the

- application at the next General Assembly, together with a recommendation on the admission of the organisation as Candidate member. The General Assembly then votes on granting the candidate membership.
- The decision to grant a candidate membership must be taken by an absolute majority of the votes cast. This decision of the General Assembly does not have to be motivated.

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As soon as the decision concerning the candidate member is known, the secretariat of the association shall inform it of this decision by e-mail. No appeal is possible against this decision.

#### Article 10 - Conditions of admission of associate members

- Associate members can participate in the General Assembly, they have speaking rights but do not have voting rights.
- Associate members are organisations that do not want to become a full member or 171 172 do not fulfil all general criteria for membership, as stipulated in article 5 of the present statutes. To become Associate member an organisation should send an 173 174 official application to the secretariat of the association. This can be done by ordinary mail or by e-mail sent to the (electronic) address of the association. 175 176 This application shall include its statutes, number of members, age limits, list of activities, budget, the intention to become an associate member and all 177 178 relevant information.
- The decision to grant an associate membership must be taken by the General
  Assembly by an absolute majority of the votes cast. This decision of the General
  Assembly does not have to be motivated.

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As soon as the decision concerning the associate member is known, the secretariat of the of the association shall inform it of this decision by email. No appeal is possible against this decision.

# **Article 11 - Resignation of members**

- Any member of the association is free to withdraw from it at any time by sending their resignation by email to the administrative board, including the motivation for their resignation.
- The administrative board informs the next General Assembly of the resignation and its motivation. Resigning members cannot in any way claim the assets of the association or the reimbursement of the contributions or membership fee paid.

If as a consequence of one of the above events, the number of full members of the association would fall below the number stipulated in article 5 of the present statues, the board will immediately call an extraordinary General Assembly, with as sole agenda item to nominate additional full members to reestablish the number of full members mentioned in article 5 of the present statutes. In this case the board has the power to suspend the termination of the full membership until a replacement is found within a reasonable period of time.

## Article 12 - Suspension of members

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- The administrative board may propose the temporary suspension of a member to the General Assembly. The suspension of a member is pronounced by the General Assembly by a simple two-thirds majority. In its decision to temporarily suspend a member, the General Assembly also determines the duration of the suspension. A suspended member loses its voting rights.
- Suspended members may request the cancellation of their suspension at the next General Assembly by sending a signed motivation letter sent by email to the administrative board at the latest one month before the General Assembly.
- Suspended members cannot in any way claim the assets of the association or the reimbursement of the contributions or membership fee paid.

#### Article 13 - Exclusion of members

- The administrative board may propose the exclusion of a member to the General Assembly. The exclusion of a member is pronounced by the General Assembly by a two-thirds majority and is only valid if the following conditions have been met:
- the proposal for exclusion is explicitly indicated in the convocation of the General Assembly,
  - the member in question was heard if they so wished,
- the assembly brings together at least two-thirds of the full members, whether they are present or represented.
- If this last condition is not met, a second convocation of the General Assembly will be necessary, and the new assembly deliberates and rules validly, regardless of the number of full members present. The second meeting cannot be

- held within fifteen days after the first meeting. The exclusion is pronounced only if it gathers a two-thirds majority of the votes cast.
- Excluded members cannot in any way claim the assets of the association or the reimbursement of the contributions paid.

# Article 14 - Membership fee

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- The amount of the annual membership fee for full members is set by the
  administrative board, in line with the rules adopted by the General Assembly in
  the Internal Rules of Procedures (hereinafter referred to as 'IRP') and without
- being able to exceed 10,000.00 EUR.

Full members that fail to pay their membership fee will not have voting rights at the General assembly, unless the General Assembly explicitly votes to still

grant the organisation's voting rights, this does not constitute a suspension.

# Titre IV - General Assembly

# 238 Article 15 - Composition

- The General Assembly is made up of all the members of the association. It is
- chaired by the Presidency designated for this purpose by the assembly, in line
- with the rules adopted by the General Assembly in the IRP.

#### 242 Article 16 - Powers

- The general assembly has the powers expressly granted to it by law or the statutes of this association.
- A decision of the general assembly is required in the following cases:
- the modification of the statutes,
- the approval of the annual financial report and the budget,
- the appointment and dismissal of administrators,
  - the appointment and dismissal of the Secretary-General,

- the appointment and dismissal of the executive committee,
- the decision on the compensation of the administrators for their mandate in the cases where a compensation is allocated to them,
- Admission, suspension and exclusion of members,
- the discharge to be granted to the administrators as well as, if
  necessary, the introduction of an action by the association against the
  administrators,
- the voluntary dissolution of the association,
- the transformation of the AISBL into an ASBL, into a cooperative company approved as a social enterprise and into a cooperative company,
- make or accept the free contribution of a universality,
- the adoption and amendment of the IRP,
- the adoption and amendment of the Political Platform,
- all other cases where the law or these statutes require it.

# Article 17 - Convocation and functioning

- The General Assembly shall be convened by the administrative board.
- The administrative board convenes at least one annual general assembly in the
- course of the 1st semester following the closing of the accounts.
- The association may convene an additional general assembly at any time by
- decision of the administrative board or at the request of at least one fifth of
- the full members. This request is sent via email to the electronic address of
- the association and includes a statement signed by one fifth or the full

- members. In the latter case, the administrative board convenes the general
- assembly within 30 days of the convening request. The general assembly is held
- 274 no later than 45 days following the convening request.
- The administrative board convenes a general assembly by ordinary mail or email,
- sent at least 15 days before the assembly. The convocation contains the agenda,
- date, time and place of the assembly. The documents that will be discussed at
- the general assembly must be made accessible.
- The assembly cannot validly deliberate on points that are not mentioned on the
- agenda, unless a two-thirds majority of the full members present consider that
- the urgency prevents them from being postponed. It can never be done for the
- modification of the statutes, the exclusion of a member, the voluntary
- dissolution of the association and the transformation of the association into an
- ASBL, into a cooperative company approved as a social enterprise or into a
- cooperative company.

- If necessary, the administrative board can convene an online General Assembly.
- This means that the General Assembly can be held via an electronic means of
- communication made available by the association, whereby all participants can
- communicate with each other, participate in the deliberation, ask questions and
- simultaneously and continuously take note of the discussions during the meeting.
- The members are thus deemed to be present at the place where the General
- Assembly is held. The association must be able to verify the capacity and
- identity on the basis of the electronic means of communication used.
- The convocation contains a clear and accurate description of the procedures
- relating to remote participation. The minutes of the General Assembly shall
- mention any technical problems and incidents that prevented or disrupted
- participation by electronic means in the General Assembly or in the vote.
- Full members can also vote remotely, either by letter or via the website, using
- a form made available by the association, or via an online voting platform. In
- the latter case, the voting results must be saved.

## **Article 18 — Attendance and voting quorums**

- Each member has the right to attend the general assembly. Only full members have
- voting rights and each full member has two votes.
- Except in the cases provided for by law or these statutes, the General Assembly
- deliberates validly only if an absolute majority of the full members are present
- or represented. If this attendance quorum is not reached at the first meeting, a

- second meeting must be convened that may validly deliberate, regardless of the number of full members present or represented. The second meeting cannot be held less than fifteen days after the first meeting.
- By default and except in cases where it is decided otherwise by law or these statutes, the following provisions apply:
- decisions are taken by a simple majority of votes present or represented,
- simple majority means a majority of votes cast excluding null votes, blank votes and abstentions
- absolute majority means a majority of the number of votes present or represented, including null votes, blank votes and abstentions.
- the vote is made in a public manner, unless a simple majority of the full
  members present request that the ballot be secret or unless the
  administrative board request that the ballot be secret,
- when the vote relates to decisions concerning individuals, the ballot is
  always

secret,

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- In addition to the cases provided for in these statutes or by law, a simple two-thirds majority is needed to:
  - change the political platform
  - change the IRP,
- o change the strategic plan
  - allow a candidate to run without the support of their Member
     Organisation
- o dismiss a member of the Executive Committee
- o dismiss the Secretary-General
  - In addition to the cases provided for in these statutes or by law, an

absolute two-thirds majority is needed to:

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vote on immediately implementing changes to the IRP

#### Article 19 - Amendments to the statutes

The General Assembly can validly deliberate on the modifications to the statutes only if the modifications are explicitly indicated in the convocation and if the General Assembly brings together at least two thirds of the full members, whether they are present or represented. Amendments are adopted by an absolute two-thirds majority of the votes of the full members present or represented.

However, the modification which relates to the disinterested goal or the object of the association can only be adopted by a majority of four fifths of the votes of the full members present or represented. If two-thirds of the full members are not present or represented at the first meeting, a second meeting must be convened that may deliberate validly, regardless of the number of full members present or represented, and adopt the modifications by a majority of four-fifths of the votes of the full members present or represented for the modifications concerning the disinterested goal or the object of the association, and with a two-thirds majority of the votes of the full members present or represented for all the other modifications to the statutes. The second meeting cannot be held less than fifteen days after the first meeting.

When the general assembly decides on amendments to the statutes, null votes, blank votes and abstentions are not taken into account for the calculation of majorities.

# Article 20 - Dissolution, free contribution of universality, transformation

The General Assembly can only pronounce the dissolution of the association under the same conditions as those relating to the modification of the object or the disinterested goal for which the association was constituted.

The General Assembly can only decide on a free contribution of universality or on the transformation of the association into an ASBL, into a cooperative company approved as a social enterprise and into a cooperative company, in accordance with the rules prescribed by the Belgian CAC. By default, those decisions are taken by the General Assembly in accordance with article 18 of the statutes.

When the General Assembly decides on the dissolution of the association, a free

contribution of universality or the transformation of the AISBL association, into an ASBL, into a cooperative company approved as a social enterprise and into a cooperative company, the null votes, blanks votes and abstentions are not taken into account for the calculation of majorities.

# Article 21 — Register of minutes and publications

- The decisions of the General Assembly are recorded in a register of minutes, 372 signed at least by the Secretary-General, as well as by all the full members and 373 administrators who wish. This register is kept at the registered office where 374 members can consult it by a simple written and motivated request addressed to 375 the administrative board, but without moving the register. The administrative 376 377 board might also decide to maintain the register electronically and provide online access to all members or provide an excerpt of the register at the 378 379 registered office.
- Decisions regarding individuals may be brought to the attention of third
  parties, who demonstrate an interest, by a simple letter signed by the
  administrator appointed for this purpose. Decisions relating to amendments to
  the statutes, the appointment and dismissal of administrators and daily
  management delegates as well as the dissolution or transformation of the
  association are filed without delay with the competent company court clerk to be
  published in the Moniteur Belge.

#### Titre V - Administrative Board

## Article 22 - Composition

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- The association is administered by an administrative board composed of at least three administrators, appointed by the General Assembly amongst the SecretaryGeneral and members of the Executive Committee, preferably the co-spokespeople and the treasurer.
- Administrators can only be natural persons.

#### Article 23 - Duration and end of the mandate

- The duration of the mandate is unlimited. In the event of termination of the mandate, the outgoing administrators are eligible for re-election.
- An administrator may be dismissed at any time by decision of the General
  Assembly, without it having to justify its decision. If necessary, the General
  Assembly provides for the replacement of the dismissed administrator.

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Besides dismissal, the mandate of an administrator only terminates by the resignation or death of an administrator. If the death of an administrator has the effect of bringing the number of administrators to a number lower than the legal or statutory minimum, an extraordinary General Assembly is convened to provide for the replacement of said administrator.

As long as the General Assembly has not provided for the replacement of the
dismissed or resigned administrator, the latter shall remain in office pending a
decision of the General Assembly concerning the appointment of a new
administrator.

# **Article 24 - Resignation**

- Any administrator who wishes to resign must notify their resignation in writing to the other administrators of the administrative board. In the event of the resignation of an administrator, the General Assembly may be convened to provide for a replacement. If the resignation has the effect of bringing the number of administrators to a number lower than the legal or statutory minimum, the administrator shall remain in office until replaced.
- In the event of a vacancy of a mandate, the administrator appointed by the General Assembly to fill it, fulfils the mandate of the one they replace.

# **Article 25 - Functioning**

The administrative board is collegial. It validly takes decisions when they are taken at a meeting, respecting the attendance and voting quorums provided for in these statutes.

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The administrative board meets minimum once per year, convocation for this meetings shall be sent by letter or electronic mail at least one day prior to the date of the meeting and shall contain the date, time and, insofar as the meeting does not take place online, the location of the meeting as well as the agenda thereof. The administrative board can also meet whenever convened by the Secretary-General, whenever the needs of the association so require or at the request of any administrator.

The meetings of the administrative board may be held by means of audio and / or video conferencing technologies, as agreed by the administrative board, allowing all participants to communicate with each other and allowing for an effective

meeting between the persons concerned.

Decisions can also be taken remotely, as long as the decision is taken in

- writing and adopted unanimously.
- The meetings of the administrative board are chaired by the administrator
- designated for this purpose.

# Article 26 - Presence and voting quorums

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- 442 can only rule if an absolute majority of administrators are present or
- represented. Decisions are taken by a simple majority of votes present or
- represented. Null and blank votes as well as abstentions are not taken into
- account for the calculation of majorities. In the event of a parity of votes,
- the item is put on the agenda of the next meeting of the Executive Committee. An
- administrator can decide to be represented by another administrator, without the
- latter being able to hold more than one proxy.

#### Article 27 - Conflicts of interest

- 450 An administrator who, within the framework of a decision to be taken, has a
- direct or indirect interest of a patrimonial nature that is opposed to that of
- 452 the association, must inform the other administrators before the administrative
- board takes the decision. Their declaration and explanations on the nature of
- 454 this conflicting interest must appear in the minutes of the meeting of the
- 455 administrative board that must take this decision. The administrative board is
- 456 not allowed to delegate this decision.
- The administrator affected by the conflict of interest described in the
- 458 preceding paragraph may not take part in the deliberations of the administrative
- board concerning these decisions or these operations, nor take part in the vote
- on this point. If the majority of administrators present or represented are in a
- 461 position of conflict of interest, the decision or the operation is submitted to
- the General Assembly. In the event of approval of the decision or the operation
- by the latter, the administrative board may execute them. This article does not
- apply when the decisions of the administrative board relate to usual
- transactions entered into under normal market conditions and quarantees for
- transactions of the same nature.
- 467 An administrator who, within the framework of a decision to be taken, has an
- interest of a moral nature that is opposed to that of the association, must
- 469 inform the other administrators before the administrative board takes the
- decision. If they neglect to do so, any other administrator who is aware of this
- 471 conflict must communicate it to the administrative board before the debate takes
- place. The administrative board decides, by a vote in which the administrator in

- question cannot take part, whether or not the latter can participate in the
- debate and the vote. The decision of the body must be mentioned in the minutes
- of the meeting. The administrative board is not allowed to delegate this
- decision.

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# Article 28 - Register of minutes

- The decisions of the administrative board are recorded in a register of minutes
- signed at least by the Secretary-General and all the other administrators who so
- wish. This register is kept at the registered office where members can read it
- with a simple written and motivated request addressed to the administrative
- board, but without moving the register. The administrative board might also
- decide to maintain the register electronically and provide online access to all
- members or provide an excerpt of the register at the registered office.

## Article 29 - Powers

- The administrative board shall have the power to perform all acts necessary or
- useful for the realisation of the objects and the disinterested goal of the
- association, except for such acts for which the General Assembly has exclusive
- authority under the law or in accordance with these statutes.
- Notwithstanding the obligations arising from functioning as a collegial board,
- namely consultation and supervision, the administrators may share the management
- tasks amongst themselves. This division of labour cannot be invoked as against
- third parties, even after the same has been made public. However, non-compliance
- with the same shall jeopardise the internal liability of the administrator(s)
- concerned.

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# Article 30 - General representation of the association

- The administrative board manages the affairs of the association and represents
- it in all operations in and out of court. The administrative board is competent
- for all matters, with the exception of those expressly reserved by law to the
- General Assembly. The administrative board acts as plaintiff and defendant in
- all legal proceedings and decides whether or not to seek remedies.
- 502 Without prejudice to the general power of representation of the administrative
- board as a college in the previous paragraph, the association is also
- represented in court, both as plaintiff and defendant, by at least one
- administrators, without it being necessary to demonstrate a prior decision of
- the administrative board. The administrative board can also delegate this task
- to a lawyer. Out of court, the association can be represented by two
- administrators, who aren't daily management delegates, without it being

necessary to demonstrate a prior decision of the administrative board.

The administrative board can also appoint authorized representatives of the association. Only special and limited powers of attorney for specific or a series of specific acts are permitted. The authorized representatives must then rely on the power of attorney to make known their power of representation. The authorised representatives shall bind the association within the limits of the power of attorney granted to them, the limits of which shall be enforceable against third parties.

The administrative board is responsible for the appointment and dismissal of the authorized representatives of the association. The term of appointment of the authorized representatives is indefinite. The following reasons can lead to their dismissal: non-compliance with the statutes, the internal rule of procedure, decisions of the General Assembly and of the administrative board. This list is not exhaustive.

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# Article 31 - Daily management

The administrative board shall ensure the daily management of the association.

It may delegate, under its supervision and responsibility, the daily management to one or more administrators or to one or more employees of the association (hereinafter called the "daily management delegates").

The daily management of the association includes both the actions and decisions that do not go beyond the needs of the daily life of the association and those which, either because of their minor importance or because of their urgent nature, do not justify the intervention of the administrative board.

In case of delegation, the daily management delegates will be appointed by the administrative board by a simple majority of votes. The resignation or termination procedure of the daily management delegate is governed by Belgian law, in accordance with the employment or cooperation agreement between the association and the daily management delegate. The daily management delegate is entitled to a renumeration insofar this is stipulated in the agreement. The duration of the mandate of the daily management delegate is linked to the term of the agreement between the association and the daily management delegate.

The daily management delegate is responsible for operations related to, but not limited to,:

 implementation of the decisions of the General Assembly and the administrative board;

- reporting on activities;
- recruiting and firing staff;
- communications;
- signing agreements related to the day-to-day operation of the association;
- executing payments;

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- 550 The daily management delegate(s) represents the association externally. If there
- are several of them, they act individually and only for contracts and
- commitments up to 20,000.00 EUR.

# **Article 32 - Publications**

- The acts relating to the appointment or termination of the functions of the
- administrators and the persons delegated to the daily management include their
- surname, first names, domicile, national number, date and place of birth.
- All deeds are filed as soon as possible with the competent company court clerk,
- in order to be published in the Moniteur Belge.

# **Article 33 - Liability of administrators**

- The administrators and daily management delegates shall be liable to the
- association for errors committed during the performance of their duties.
- 562 With regard to third parties, the administrators shall be liable for extra-
- 563 contractual errors.
- However, administrators are liable only for decisions, acts or conduct that are
- manifestly outside the range within which normally prudent and careful
- administrator, placed in the same circumstances, might reasonably differ.
- The administrative board is in principle jointly and severally liable unless an
- administrator proves that he has reported the alleged error to the
- administrative board, in which case the administrator concerned is relieved of
- 570 liability.
- If the liability of the administrative board or its administrators is retained,
- it shall be limited to the liability that is mandatorily imposed under the law.

# Title VI - Executive Committee

# 574 Article 34 - Composition

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- The administrative board is advised and supported by an executive committee
- composed of at least three people, appointed by the General Gssembly.
- 577 Executive committee members can only be natural persons.

# 578 Article 35 - Format, role and functioning

- The dispositions and rules regarding the mandate, appointment, resignation,
- dismissal, powers, functioning and decision making of the executive committee
- are detailed in the Internal Rules of Procedure.

# Title VII — Internal Rules of Procedures

## Article 36 - Adoption and modification

- The administrative board shall draw up all such Internal Rules of Procedures
- (IRP) as it may deem necessary and present these at the General Assembly for
- approval and for any possible amendments. Such internal regulations may not
- contain any provisions contrary to the CAC or the statutes.
- The IRP and any amendments thereto shall be notified to the Members in
- accordance with Article 2:32 of the CAC, if applicable. The latest approved
- version of the IRP shall always be available for inspection at the registered
- office of the association and on the website of the association. It can be
- obtained with a simple written request sent to the administrative board.

# Title VIII — Accounts and budgets

# 594 Article 37 - Financial year and account management

- The financial year begins on January 1 and ends on December 31.
- The administrative board prepares and closes the accounts for the past financial
- year in accordance with the provisions of Book 3 of the CAC and Book III, Title
- 598 3, Chapter 2 of the Code of Economic Law, as well as the budget of the following
- year and submits them for approval to the annual General Assembly.

- After approval of the financial statements by the annual General Assembly, the latter decides in a separate vote on the administrator's discharge. This discharge is only legally valid if the true state of the association is not obscured by any omission or incorrect statement in the annual accounts, and, with regard to the additional transaction under the articles of association or contrary to the law, if these are specifically indicated in the convening notice.
  - Title IX Dissolution and liquidation
- 509 Article 38 Liquidation

- Except in case of judicial dissolution, only the General Assembly can pronounce the dissolution of the association in accordance with Book 2, Title 8, Chapter 2 and 3 of the CAC and article 20 of the statutes.
- In this case, the General Assembly appoints one or more liquidators, determines their powers and their possible compensation, and indicates the allocation to be given to the net assets that can only be made for disinterested purposes similar to the disinterested goal as described in article 4 of the statutes.
- Article 39 Allocation of remaining net assets
- In all cases of voluntary or judicial dissolution, after the settlement of debts, the net assets will be assigned to another organisation that pursues a similar disinterested goal as described in article 4 of the statutes.
- 621 Title X Final Provision
- Article 40 Application of the Companies and Associations
  Code
- Everything that is not explicitly provided for in these statutes is regulated by the CAC or any changes, any replacements or (future) implementations thereof.