



European Network of
Places of Peace

Statutes

CHAPTER I

Article 1

The Association EUROPEAN NETWORK OF PLACES OF PEACE is a non-profit association, in the ambit of Europe, and will last for an indeterminate period of time.

Article 2

Head Office

1. The head office of the Association is at nr 3, Rua da Corredoura, in the parish of Evoramonte, municipality of Estremoz.
2. The head office of the Association may be moved to any other locality in the parish of Evoramonte, if the Board so decides.

CHAPTER II

Fundamental Principles and Objectives

Article 3

In developing its activity, the Association will be guided by the following fundamental principles:

- a) to promote cooperation between the cities and places in Europe where Peace Treaties and Conventions were signed, and with European Organizations and Institutions whose main purpose is to defend Peace;
- b) To promote mutual understanding, through exchanging joint experiences and initiatives with all the places where Peace Treaties and Conventions were signed;
- c) To promote and publicize the defense of a Culture of Peace, as the best means of ensuring a peaceful and harmonious environment among the peoples of Europe, for an Europe of Peace;
- d) To promote events and initiatives in defense of a policy for Peace, in cooperation with national, regional and local governments and with European institutions, namely the European Commission and Parliament;
- e) To promote contact and joint initiatives for the defense of Peace with other places and regions in the World, especially in those where war is a bloody reality;

- f) To promote Cultural Tourism for Peace, by integrating the places of Peace into the maps and programs for tourist development in every region and European country.

Article 4 Objectives

In the pursuit of its fundamental principles, the objectives of the Association are:

- a) to establish an Independent European Association comprising members from every European country;
- b) Encourage and support its members to bring about regular celebrations of the Peace Treaties and Conventions;
- c) Propose to the European Parliament that every member of the Association where Peace Treaties and Conventions were signed be classed as a EUROPEAN SYMBOL OF PEACE;
- d) Contribute to the enhancement of those places in Europe where Peace Treaties and Conventions were signed;
- e) Setting up representative office each in every European country or in other continents;
- f) Set up a EUROPEAN PEACE ROUTE, linking all the places, as members of the Association, where Peace Treaties and Conventions were signed;
- g) Celebrate partnerships with Universities, Schools, and European Scientific Institutions, to promote and defend Peace;
- h) Promote, both within and outside of the Association, the disclosure of its activities, through new information technologies.

CHAPTER III Article 5 Members

The members of the Association are divided into 3 categories:

- a) Founding Members – the organizations and entities participating in the establishment of the Association, will be deemed full members when considering the following articles;
- b) Full Members –
 - b)1. Municipalities, Councils, Regional Governments or Authorities, in whose territory one or more Peace Treaties or Conventions have been signed, enveloping its region, country, state or kingdom;
 - b)2. Non-profit associations, whose head offices are situated in a place or city where one or more Peace Treaties or Conventions have been signed, enveloping its region, state or kingdom, and which cumulatively fulfill the following requirements:

§ 1 – be legally established for more than 2 years;

§ 2 – have, as a statutory objective, the defense of the historical patrimony of the place where their head office is;

§ 3 – At least once a year hold an activity or public initiative relevant to a Peace Treaty or Convention, and which is indispensable to the place or city where their head office is.

b) 3. University or Investigation Centres, whose principal activity is the promotion and defense of Peace.

c) Associate Members -

c) 1. Public institutions, whose principal concern is the promotion and defense of Peace;

c) 2. Schools of higher learning which develop activities relevant to the promotion and defense of Peace;

c) 3. Private European associations, Federations and Confederations which promote and defend Peace, without any ties to Peace Treaties or Conventions;

c) 4. European citizens, whose contribution is recognized as being important to the objectives of the Association.

Article 6 Admission

Admission of members to the Association is decided by the Board

Article 7 Full Members

Rights of full members:

- a) To be elected, elect, or dismiss members of the governing bodies in accordance with the statutes;
- b) Participate in the activities of the Association, specially at the General Assembly, by petitioning, presenting, discussing and voting on motions and proposals which they consider to be appropriate;
- c) To be informed of the activities of the Association on a regular basis;
- d) Discuss the budget, the plan of activities and the financial report presented annually by the Board.

Article 8 Associate Members

Rights of Associate Members

- a) Participate in the activities of the Association;
- b) Participate, but not vote, at the Annual General Meeting;
- c) Integrate into consultative and scientific committees organizing events and initiatives, and Institutional Delegations at the invitation of the Board of the Association.

Article 9
Duties of the Members

- a) Abide by and enforce the statutes as well as decisions made by the governing bodies;
- b) Participate wholeheartedly in the activities of the Association;
- c) Pay on time the joining fee and annual dues prescribed in the statutes, and the dues approved at the Annual General Meeting.

CHAPTER IV
Structure and Bodies of the Association

Article 10

1. The governing bodies of the Association are:
 - a) Annual General Meeting
 - b) Board of Directors
 - c) Statutory Audit Committee
2. The term of office for members of the board of directors is 4 years, with the possibility of reelection.

Article 11
Effecting a Mandate

A post on the governing bodies may be remunerated, if so decided at the Annual General Meeting.

Article 12
Annual General Meeting

1. The Annual General Meeting is the supreme deciding body of the Association.
2. The Annual General Meeting comprises all full members enabled to exercise their rights.
3. The Chair presiding at the Annual General Meeting comprises a President, 1 Vice President, and 1 Secretary.

Article 13

- In particular it is incumbent on the Annual General Meeting to:
- a) Elect and dismiss the governing bodies of the Association;
 - b) Discuss and approve, before March 31 of each year, the Activity and Financial Reports from the previous year, and before December 31 of each year, to discuss and approve

the budget for the next year. These discussions will take place after the Statutory Audit Committee has issued its conclusions;

- c) Approve the regulations relating to the conditions imposed when admitting or excluding members;
- d) Approve the regulation for convening and holding the Electoral General Meeting, the electoral process and the procedure of the Annual General Meeting.

Article 14 Deliberations

- 1. The Annual General Meeting may not deliberate at the fixed hour, without the presence of at least half of its members.
- 2. If it has been established, at the fixed hour, that this number has not been reached, the Meeting will take place an hour later with any number of members present.
- 3. Unless there is a legal reason to the contrary, the decisions of the Annual General Meeting will be made by an absolute majority of members.

Article 15 Formation of the Board

- 1. The Board comprises a President, 1 Vice President, 1 Secretary, 1 Treasurer and 1 voting member.
- 2. The Vice President will substitute the President if for any reason he is unable to attend.

Article 16 Jurisdiction of the Board

- 1. It is incumbent on the Board to administrate and coordinate the activity of the Association.
- 2. It is within the jurisdiction of the Board to:
 - a) Represent the Association before a court of law or outside the court, that is before national, regional and local Institutions;
 - b) Define the functions and responsibilities of each of its members.

Article 17 Statutory Audit Committee

The Statutory Audit Committee is the auditing board of the Association.

Article 18 Formation

1. The Statutory Audit Committee comprises 1 President and 2 voting members.
2. Members of the Board or of the Chair presiding at the Annual General Meeting may not be on the Statutory Audit Committee.

Article 19 Jurisdiction

It is within the jurisdiction of the Statutory Audit Committee to:

- a) Audit the Association's accounts and relevant documents and books;
- b) Give an opinion on the Budget, Plan of Activities and Accounts Report presented by the Board;
- c) Answer to the General Assembly, request it to be convened, and inform on matters within its jurisdiction.

Article 20 Contratual Representation

To legally represent the Association, at least two signatures of members of the Board are necessary, one of which is that of the President or the Treasurer.

CHAPTER V Funds

Article 21 Receipts

Association receipts are:

- a) Joining fees;
- b) Annual dues;
- c) Extra contributions made by its members;
- d) Subsidies received from Community Programs for which the Association presented a proposal;
- e) Institutional and private sponsors.
- f) Any other income

Article 22 Joining fees

Full members:

Municipalities/Councils – 0,0075 € per inhabitant, with a limit of €2.500,00

Regional Governments – 0,0075 € per inhabitant, with a limit of €5.000,00

Non-profit Associations and University Centres of Investigation – minimum of €250,00

Associate Members:

National Public Institutions – minimum of € 150,00

Associations, private Federations and Confederations – minimum of €100,00

Schools of Higher Learning – minimum of € 50,00

Individual members – minimum of € 25,00.

Article 23
Annual Dues

Members' dues are proposed by the Board, and fixed at the Annual General Meeting.

CHAPTER VI
Disciplinary Action

Article 24

- 1) The nonfulfillment on the part of the members, either by deed or omission, of their duties foreseen in these statutes, constitutes a punishable offence.
- 2) Penalties for punishable offences may be the following:
 - a) Warning;
 - b) Suspension of rights for a year;
 - c) Expulsion
- 3) The offender is always given a prior hearing before any penalty is applied by the Board, which has the authority to do so.
- 4) Expulsion is always ratified at the General Assembly.

ARTICLE 25
Loss of membership status

1. At any time the members of the Association may resign, after having previously made their intention known at least one year in advance.
2. Resignation does not give the right to be reimbursed for either the joining fee or any annual dues which have already been paid. The Association has the right to claim any dues which correspond to the period prior to notification of resignation.

CHAPTER VII

Article 26
Final and Provisional Steps
Dismissal of the Governing Boards

At any time the members of the Board and Statutory Audit Committee maybe dismissed following a decision by at least 2/3 of the members present at the respective Annual General Meeting.

1. As a consequence of nr 1, the Presiding Chairmen at the Annual General Meeting step down following the election of the new governing bodies.

Article 27

The present statutes may be altered after a vote in favour by at least $\frac{3}{4}$ of the members convened and present at the Annual General Meeting called for that specific purpose.

Article 28

1. A decision for a merger or dissolution of the Association is only valid when approved by at least $\frac{3}{4}$ of the members with full rights, at a Annual General Meeting convened specifically for that purpose.
2. At the Annual General Meeting where a merger or dissolution was voted on, the terms of this procedure must be defined, that is, concerning the fate of the patrimony of the Association which must not be distributed among the members.

Article 29

Provisional Step

1. At the time of establishing the Association, an inaugurating committee is selected from the founding members, and whose task is to invite new members, and to call the first Annual General Meeting of the Association to elect the governing bodies.
2. During the first mandate of the governing bodies, it is obligatory that the posts of President, Vice (s) President (s), Treasurer and Secretary be held by founding members.

Article 30

Once there is a European law that regulates the operation of Associations, these statutes will be changed and appropriated to the new legislation.