# **Electoral Commission Report**

# E.MAlumni General Assembly 2020

2-15 June 2020



#### **Report of the Independent Election Committee**

#### 21 June 2020

Pursuant to the request of the election chair, we were honoured to be part of the Independent Electoral Commission during the election of the President and Board Members of E.MAlumni Association ASBL (E.MAlumni) during the period of 2 June 2020, 11:00 AM CET – 15 June 2020, 12:00 PM CET.

After completing our mission, the Independent Electoral Commission hereby certifies that the online vote was conducted fairly and honestly and fully corresponded with the provisions of the Statute for the E.MAlumni Association ASBL.

#### Hence, we declare that:

- Referring to Article 14.7 of the Statute, we confirm that **the quorum was reached**. 52 (fifty two) active members out of 65 (sixty five) cast their votes. This represents a voting rate of 80%, above the statutory quorum of 50% i.e. 33 (thirty-three) voters.
- The only candidate for the President of the Board, **Adam Jacobi Møller**, was elected new President of the Board of E.MAlumni.
- Five alumni put forward their candidature for the five Board Member positions, all candidacy being valid (according to Article 14.1 of the Statute):
  - Giuseppe Amatulli
  - Shane Cogan
  - Tanja Fachathaler
  - Penny Papaspyropoulou
  - Jean-Marie Rogue

As a result of the vote (see details below), **Giuseppe Amatulli, Shane Cogan, Tanja Fachathaler, Penny Papaspyropoulou, and Jean-Marie Rogue** were elected as Board Members.

• The items opened for comments received **comments** that are summarised below and which should be considered by the Board under the upcoming mandate.

### **Background Information**

The General Assembly was announced by email on 18 May 2020, i.e. well in advance of the eight days before the start of the voting procedures, as required by the statute. The General Assembly was announced via a mailchimp email to all full members, but also via E.MAlumni newsletter and Facebook.

Candidates had to present their candidacies before 28 May 2020, 23:59 CEST in the campaign's forum.

Within this required timeframe, five people put forward candidacies for the Board and one person for President.

The General Assembly took place online from 2 June 2020, 11:00 AM CET to 15 June 2020, 12:00 PM CET.

A forum for online debates around the 2020 E.MAlumni General Assembly was opened on 18 May 2020 but did not lead to any discussion (no post).

The Electoral Commission is in charge of verifying the transparency of voting procedures and confirm the quorum. It is composed of:

- Charlotte Campo, EMA graduate 2011, Former Member of the Board of the EMAlumni Association
- Mariam Khizanashvili, CESAA graduate 2018, Member of the Transitioning Board of the CESAA
- Amila Madžak, ERMA graduate 2017, Member of the Board of the Global Campus Alumni (GCA)
   Association
- Jean-Marie Rogue, EMA graduate 2009, Member of the Board of the EMAlumni Association

#### Items for vote or comment

The items submitted to vote (approval or rejection) or comment were:

- 1. Presentation of the Mid-term Financial Report 2019/20 for comment
- 2. Presentation of the Mid-term Narrative Report 2019/20 for comment
- 3. Activity plan 2020/2021 for comment
- 4. Election of 5 Board Members (2020-2022) for vote
- 5. Election of President (2020-2022) for vote
- 6. Amendment of the Statute of Association for vote on each amendment
- 7. AOB for comment

The following summarises the comments received for the "for comment" items and clarifies the votes and quorum for the "for vote" items.

#### 1. Presentation of the Mid-term Financial Report 2019/20 – for comment

See annex 1.

The Mid-term Financial Report covering the period August 2019 – January 2020 was accessible via a link.

Only three comments were received:

- One was thanking the Board for its work.
- One requested details about the "accountancy fees"
- One insisted on the need for the Association to keep the increase of the number of memberships as an aim.

#### 2. Presentation of the Mid-term Narrative Report 2019/20 – for comment

See annex 2.

The Mid-term Narrative Report 2019-2020 covering the activities for the period August 2019 - January 2020 was accessible via a link.

Six comments were received:

- All the comments congratulated the Association on its work.
- One asked the reason for the discontinuation of the mentoring program.
- One expressed a positive surprise given the fact that the number of GCAlumni had greatly grown over the years.

## 3. Activity plan 2020/2021 – for comment

The Board informed the Members that it was going to draft at the end of June/beginning of July an Activity Plan for the period 2020-2021. The activities need to be in line with the three objectives of the EMAlumni Association (Bring alumni together/Strengthen the community/network; Increase the visibility of the work and impact of alumni on human rights; Support the professional development of alumni).

Eight comments were received:

- One considered supported the continuation of the "Discussions with Alumni" recently put together by the Association, and believes in the potential of the "Alumni Award".
- One mentioned the need to keep Mentoring, CV clinic, Webinars in the future Activity Plan.
- One demanded to specify the EMAlumni role in the GCA.
- One proposed to keep the mentoring activity, and suggested to include the creation of supportive tools, like an open forum, to support the Mentors and help for the mutual reinforcement of their activity in the Mentoring programme. Another idea is working with webstories. Talking from a

- personal experience, mentors and mentees learn a lot through the process but EMAlumni don't capitalize enough.
- One recalled the fact that many EMAlumni are having a difficult time finding a job, and suggested to intensify the work around CV exchange/review and possibilities to discuss job opportunities with other alumni working in the relevant organisations.
- One requested to take into account the COVID19 situation when drafting the Activity Plan 2020/2021, and to work with different plans related to the possible development of the pandemic.
- One suggested to organise regular online meetings on the topic "human rights and democracy in debate", including a 20min presentation, followed by a 10min comment and a 30min open discussion. A call of expressions can be organised every 6 months for online meetings in the following 6 months.
- One congratulated the board for the great work done.

#### 4. Election of 5 Board Members (2020-2022) – for vote

Five alumni put forward their candidature for the Board Member position, all candidacy being valid (according to Article 14.1 of the Statute).

Total number of voters: 52 – The quorum was reached.

The candidates received the following votes:

- Giuseppe Amatulli 45
- Shane Cogan 38
- Tanja Fachathaler 41
- Penny Papaspyropoulou 49
- Jean-Marie Rogue 44

As a result of this vote, Giuseppe Amatulli, Shane Cogan, Tanja Fachathaler, Penny Papaspyropoulou, and Jean-Marie Rogue were elected as Board Members.

#### 5. Election of President (2020-2022) – for vote

Total number of voters: 52 – The quorum was reached.

The only candidate for the President of the Board, **Adam Jacobi Møller**, received 48 votes, thus becoming the new President of the Board of E.MAlumni.

#### 6. Amendment of the Statute of Association – for vote on each amendment

See annex 3 for the Statute as amended.

# Changing of names to "European Master Programme in Human Rights and Democratisation" and "Global Campus for Human Rights in the Status

• Total number of voters: 52 – The quorum was reached.

Approving: 50Rejecting: 2

• Result: Approved

### Substantial Modifications to Title IV (Organisational Structure) article 14 ("The Board")

• Total number of voters: 52 – The quorum was reached.

Approving: 51Rejecting: 1

Result: Approved

This item was about the adaptation of the mentioned article to comply with the current legal and administrative requirements.

#### Reference to the New Code des Sociétés et des Associations

• Total number of voters: 52 – The quorum was reached.

Approving: 51Rejecting: 1Result: Approved

This item was about the need for the E.MAlumni association to refer to the new Belgian legislation on associations ("Code des Sociétés et des Associations").

#### Structural modification to Title III Membership of the Association

• Total number of voters: 52 – The quorum was reached.

Approving: 52Rejecting: 0Result: Approved

This item was about modifications to ensure consistency with the mode of operating of the Association and the Membership (online and by donations).

#### 7. AOB – for comment

Voters had the possibility to propose any additional comments and/or suggestions for the association.

Twenty comments were received:

- Seventeen congratulated the Board for its work.
- One comment concerned the need to keep good interaction between the Board and the network of Alumni.
- One comment supported more engagement of other members of the GCA as supportive members.
- One comment supported further development of the communication of the Board and another comment asked the Board to regularly remind the network of the existing means to stay in touch with the Board and exchange with the rest of the network.
- One comment called for the Board to push on GCE to work more with Embassies to facilitate long-term visas for non-EU students.
- One comment considered as very important to offer Members not only the possibility to vote
  on the amendments of the Statutes but also to comment. The person mentioned that the old
  name of the Associations should be included in the Statutes (adding "formerly known as EIUC
   European Inter University Centre for Human Rights and Democratisation" and "Likewise for
  the E.MA").
- Another comment concerning the amendments of the Statute regretted that the text did not clarify what would be the deleted parts (with in strike-trough). The person also would have appreciated more information about the reasons for change.
- One comment regretted the low number of supportive members and suggested to lower the membership fee. The same comment asked for more visibility for the activities of the association, giving the example of the need to encourage Ambassadors to organise something at least twice a year.

**END** 

21 June 2020, signed:

The Electoral Commission

• Charlotte Campo

• Mariam Khizanashvili

2. bor 5 strong

Amila Madžak

Jean-Marie Rogue

Dogue

### Annexes:

- Annex 1 : Mid-term Financial Report 2019/20
- Annex 2: Mid-term Narrative Report 2019/20
- Annex 3 : Statutes as amended

BUDGET LINE	SUPPLIER	AMOUNT	TOT AMOUNT
1.1 SECRETARY GENERAL	GABRIEL ALVES DE FARIA	1 000,00	1 000,00
1.1 SECRETARY GENERAL	GABRIEL ALVES DE FARIA	2 000,00	2 000,00
1.1 SECRETARY GENERAL	GABRIEL ALVES DE FARIA	1 500,00	1 500,00
1.4 HUMAN RESOURCES CONSULTANT	LA BOUTIQUE DE GESTION	150,00	181,50
1. HUMAN RESOURCES			
3.1 LEGAL ADDRESS	MUNDO	58,88	71,24
3.1 LEGAL ADDRESS	MUNDO	58,88	71,24
3. LOCAL OFFICE			
4.2 ACCOUNTANCY FEES	BELASTINGCONSULENTEN	485,00	586,85

# 4. BANK AND ACCOUNTANT FEES

SUBTOTAL		
4 500,00		
181,50		
4 681,50		
142,48		
142,48		
586,85		
586,85		
5 410,83		



# Mid-term report

August 2019 – January 2020

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# Introduction

This has been an exciting period. As of January 31, our alumni community counts almost 2000 members, amidst the greater GCA alumni community which is close to 5000 members.

We engaged with many members of our community virtually and sometimes face-to-face. We collaborated with Global Campus Alumni, the EMA Programme and the Global Campus of Human Rights on different occasions. We put current students in contact with enthusiastic alumni in 29 European cities. Our newsletters were sent to more than 1500 Alumni and our capacity on social media has increased.

Board members finally met each other in person and we agreed to plan our next activities through a very horizontal and participatory way within the board. We recognized the great achievements of the members of our community, connected exceptional people and offered opportunities for personal and professional development. We went global with a series of very inspiring videos.

The Association also underwent some governance and human resources changes. Carla left her position of Secretary-General of the EMAlumni Association and is now solely the Secretary-General of Global Campus Alumni Association. We would like to acknowledge the amazing work and contribution to the Association of Carla Miranda, our outgoing Secretary General. Carla has been the glue that has held the Association's board together for a number of years and her work has ensured that the Association not only survived but thrived. And while we wish all the best to Carla for her new alumni adventures, we were thrilled to welcome Gabriel Alves de Faria as our new Secretary General. In just a few months, we have made a good use of his great planning and organizational skills and his communication and social skills facilitated his integration in the team.

We also welcomed two new board members – Theodora Ralli and Charles Slidders – elected at the General Assembly of the association in October 2019. They are both very excited to be contributing to the association.

Finally, we planned new activities and we remain deeply committed to our alumni community.

# 1. Governance

# 1.1. New Secretary-General

Since November 2019, Gabriel Alves de Faria, a 2012/13 graduate, is the new Secretary-General of the EMAlumni Association. Gabriel has worked with children's rights in Brazil, homelessness in Ireland, at UNICEF in Geneva, with sexual orientation law at Leiden University, at the LGBTI Rapporteurship of the IACHR in Washington DC, and most recently as a field coordinator and human rights officer at the UN's peacekeeping mission in the DR Congo. He is the co-founder of Not Only Voices, an initiative that connects LGBTI rights defenders, and works as a human rights consultant.



Carla Miranda, former Secretary-General and Gabriel Alves de Faria, new Secretary-General

# 1.2. General Assembly and new board members

The General Assembly (GA) 2019 took place online from 18 October 2019 to 5 November 2019. Only full/supportive members could vote and be elected to the board of the Association. The GA approved the annual report and activity plan presented by the board and agreed to change the dates of the next GA to the spring/summer and to update the Association's logo.

Moreover, two new members of the board were elected: Theodora Ralli and Charles Slidders.

Adam Moeller, Jennifer Valentine and Michele Romano were re-elected as board members; Véronique Lerch was re-elected as President.

More information about the General Assembly here.

# 1.3. Board meeting

On 18-19 January the Association's board members and Secretary-General gathered in Brussels to discuss activities and strategies for the next year. It was the first face-to-face Board Meeting in the past 4 years, so it was also a chance to get to know each other better and renew our motivation for the upcoming activities.

We organised sessions on the history and mission of the Association, internal and external communication, technical challenges, membership and strategic planning among others. The outcome of the weekend was very positive. Members have their responsibilities clearer now and the whole board is more engaged and aligned with the Association's mission of bringing human rights professionals together and supporting them to grow professionally. The meeting was made possible thanks to the membership contribution and board members' personal investment.

Board members spend on average 20 hours a month on tasks related to the association, with some members spending as much as 40 hours a month.

Read more about our board members here.



Board members (missing Jennifer)

#### 1.4. Administrative work

## MID-TERM REPORT AUGUST 2019 – JANUARY 2020

Managing an NGO requires a lot of administrative work. We have been particularly busy with our bank account. After numerous challenges with the current bank, the decision was taken to change banks; for that purpose, we require many documents and we need to adapt the statutes at the next General Assembly. We also have to manage our financial costs, reporting and the relation with Belgian authorities and accountant.

# 2. Activities

The activities that took place in the first 6 months of this cycle were aimed at:

- Strengthening the alumni community and encouraging networking
- Increasing the visibility of the work of alumni
- Supporting their contribution to the EMA programme
- Strengthening the professional development of alumni

#### 2.1. EMAlumni Award

In 2019, for the first time, the EMA Alumni Award was given to a graduate of the programme in recognition of their contribution to society, and their commitment to advancing human rights and democratisation. The award reflects and promotes the EMA spirit.

The winner of the inaugural award (from a number of high-quality nominees) was Milen Kidane (EMA alum 1999). Milen spent over 20 years working in child protection in Africa, Asia and the Caribbean; and is currently Chief Child Protection Officer for UNICEF Nigeria. Milen was presented with the award, artwork entitled 'Collective Memory' by Belgian artist Koen Vanmechelen, at the graduation ceremony in Venice in September 2019. It was particularly fitting that the winner of the 2019 award dedicated her career to child protection as 2019 was the 30th anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

More information available <u>here</u>.



Milen Kidane, recipient of the first EMAlumni Award receiving her award from Manfred Nowak, Secretary-General of Global Campus of Human Rights

These are the closing remarks from Milen Kidane, when receiving the award at the graduation ceremony in Venice:

"So, as the summer days grow colder, and we sit here inside these majestic halls, and you are about to embark on your own journeys – reflect on this past year. And as you do, reflect not only on the lessons you have learned, the countless books and papers you have read, the many lectures you have attended, but also on all the times you have been kind, reflect on every interaction you had and ask yourself this question.

Did I leave that person better than I found them? Did I treat them the way I would want someone to treat me? If the answer is yes, continue this kindness, because you are on the road to excellence. If the answer is no, go forward with a renewed commitment to leaving positivity where you step. If your goal is to be great, work hard in school and every other aspect of your life .... but if your goal is to be excellent, I promise that kindness will get you there. Be passionately kind."

# 2.2. Graduation Ceremony and introduction to new students



Véronique Lerch, President EMAlumni Association

As every year, the President of the EMAlumni Association made a short speech at the Graduation ceremony in order to officially welcome the graduating students in the alumni community. She also introduced the EMAlumni award.

# 2.3. Practical skills workshop

The practical skills workshops are two-day workshops delivered to the students during their first semester. It aims at providing current students with practical skills related to human rights, such as advocacy, project management, or human rights assessment. It has been included in the official curriculum of the EMA programme and its aim is to bridge the gap between theory and practice.

In October 2019, two Alumni went to Venice to share their practical experience with the students.



Milica Matijevic did a workshop on human rights impact assessment

Maria Pia Bianchetti did a workshop on advocacy



"I had a class of 18 students and despite the fact that the day before they had a mid-term exam, they have shown great eagerness to learn about this new evaluation technique, have asked me many interesting questions and have participated with the enthusiasm in the role-plays and other learning exercises I have prepared for them. For me, this was an opportunity to reconnect with my memories from the time I was masterina (academic year 2004/2005), but also a chance to give something in return for all I got while attending EMA. (...) I would also like to thank to the persons engaged in the EMAlumni Association for their efforts to keep us all together around the great project called EMA."

Milica Matijevic

# 2.4. Career Day

The Career Day is a one-day event at the end of the first semester of the EMA programme and takes place at the Monastery in Lido. The Career Day aims at providing current EMA students with guidance on potential career opportunities in the field of human rights and democracy through an exchange of experience with alumni.

The Career Day also gives them a first overview of how the EMAlumni association can help them in their career path through a community of human rights professionals.

On January 24, the Career Day was organised with three key speakers who are experts in different fields of human rights and were chosen among the EMAlumni community. The three key speakers of this year were:

- Rosa Izquierdo, Freelance Human Rights, Protection and Psychology Professional; GLOCARIS Glocal Minds Ltd consultancy firm owner
- Saionara König-Reis, Senior Adviser on Sustainable Development and Human Rights at the Danish Institute for Human Rights.
- Marta Trenado Diaz, Children's Rights Expert.

In addition, Penny Papaspyropulou participated as representative of the Board of the EMAlumni Association.



Rosa Izquierdo

"It is always an honour to go back to Lido and serve as guide to current students with the thousands of questions they have, we also had, and did not have those opportunities to look into them together, to find out and grow together before taking different paths of the same road. For me, human rights work means to be a tool to help others' lives to be better but also our own lives to be interesting, joyful and rewarding. We need to help each other in this path, share experiences and guide each other, otherwise this everything makes no sense! That is what I do in my own company that is how I understand us masteri/oni as a team! A joint venture. Thanks Venice, thanks Global Campus."

Rosa Izquierdo, Alum/facilitator of Career Day





Marta Trenado

Saionaro König-Reis

"The career day was very enriching especially because of the different backgrounds the Alumni's shared with us. It also gave us the opportunity to network and meet other passionate human rights activists."

Jennifer, current EMA student

#### 2.5. EU-NGO Forum

Considering that our Secretary-General works only 2 days a week, it is rare that he has time to participate in events for networking and visibility purposes. However, the traditional EU-NGO Forum in December 2019 in Brussels was a great opportunity to touch base with other similar Associations, potential partners and EU institutions.

It was also an ideal moment to meet up with Alumni who are working with/at civil society organizations.



Many generations of Alumni

# 3. Joint-activities with GCA

# 3.1. Videos for the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the CRC

The Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) turned 30 years old on November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2019. We celebrated the importance of this fundamental convention by highlighting the work of fellow alumni from the Global Campus of Human Rights within the field of child rights.

The four celebratory videos are testimonies to the CRC and the importance it continues to have for human rights defenders and children globally. Adam Moeller - EMAlumni Association board member – who led this project.

The primary target groups were the GCA community, human rights-oriented organizations/groups and EU, UN and other international organisations while also non-human rights groups were exposed to the videos on social media and thereby informed on the work of alumni from the GCA.



Collage of UDHR 70th and CRC 30th anniversary alumni videos

The purpose of the project was to increase awareness about the rights of the child, as well as to increase knowledge about the Global Campus of Human Rights. Further, to increase knowledge about human rights professionals produced by the GC human rights masters, and finally to show alumni and human rights students aspect of the professional work of other alumni, which in terms would help to build the sense of belonging to the alumni community.

The four videos have been very well received by the alumni community and beyond. They have been reposted in the EU system and used in presentations at the GC of Human Rights to EU Delegations and the UN.

In 2018, the EMAlumni Association produced four videos together with Global Campus Alumni celebrating the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Combined, these eight videos stand as a strong and timeless demonstration of the important work that have sparkled from alumni of the GC human rights.

The videos are accessible <u>here</u>.



### 3.2. Panel on the CRC

In order to celebrate the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, Global Campus Alumni, with the support of the Right Livelihood Foundation, organised a panel in Venice in September 2019 to take stock of what had been achieved and which progress we should still aim at for a full realisation of children's rights. The panel

Two alumni took part in the panel: Milen Kidane, the recipient of the 2019 EMAlumni Award, Chief of Child Protection, UNICEF Nigeria, and Katharina Hausler, EMA alum 2009, trainee lawyer and author of the of the book "Social Rights of Children in Europe: A Case-Law study on selected rights". The panel was moderated by a graduating student, Emoke Bekiak.



Emoke Bekiak, Katharina Hausler and Milen Kidane

## 3.3. GCA ambassadors, HUBs and second semester students

The EMAlumni Association has the responsibility of caring for the 35 GCA hubs in Europe and staying in touch with the 50 ambassadors all over the continent. We have regular contact and support them in organising local gatherings.

An important activity of the Association is linking ambassadors (all Alumni) to the current EMA students in their second semester's destination. This year, we put students in contact with ambassadors in 29 European cities.

Our board member Jennifer Valentine stopped to ensure the global coordination of the GCA ambassadors and is solely focused on GCA hubs in Europe.

# 4. Communications

## 4.1. Social Media

#### LinkedIn

The EMAlumni Association has a closed group on LinkedIn reserved to alumni from EMA. This group currently counts 411 members compared to 400 on August  $1^{st}$  2020.

#### MID-TERM REPORT AUGUST 2019 – JANUARY 2020

The official <u>page</u> for external followers which was created last year has currently 33 followers compared to 14 on August 1<sup>st</sup> 2019.

#### Facebook group

The EMAlumni Association has a closed Facebook group reserved to EMAlumni. As of 31st January 2020, the group had 685 members (alumni only) when compared to 613 members on August 1st 2019.

The official <u>page</u> for external followers currently has 1017 likes and 1023 followers on 31st January 2020 compared to 988 likes and 990 followers on August 1st.

#### 4.2. Newsletter

The EMAlumni Newsletter continues to be one of the main vehicles to share and promote the work of the alumni community. It is used to highlight calls relevant for alumni, to showcase what other alumni do and to increase the awareness of not just the EMAlumni Association but also GCA.

It is important in the on-going efforts of engaging more alumni in the Association by highlighting how the network of alumni can support each other. Amongst other efforts, the newsletter aims at increasing the active participation of Alumni and at encouraging them to support the Association by paying their membership contribution or by volunteering.

The newsletter is sent approximately every second month to all Alumni members and other interested persons that have subscribed to the mailing list through the website. The figure stands at 1.501subscribers. Some 440 recipients open the newsletter on average.

The sections that are usually included are:

- Message from the Secretary-General, President, Vice-President or other members of the board
- News from Global Campus Europe (courses, classes, seminars, application calls)
- News from the alumni network (including campaigns being run by alumni, publications, initiatives)
- Alumni hubs (photos and news)
- Job opportunities
- Upcoming events, projects and activities

#### **NEWS FROM THE ALUMNI NETWORK**

Winner of the first EMAlumni Prize is *Milen Kidane*. She was chosen for her work and dedication in the field of children's rights. She will be awarded her prize at the 2019 EMA ceremony on 29 September in Venice.



Jemma Neville, 2006, is the author of a new book about the lived experience of human rights in practice. Part-memoir, part social-

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

It is that time of the year: The <u>Ceremony of the EMA</u>, Global Campus Europe) for the academic year 2018/2019 and inauguration of the 23 academic year 2019/2020, will be held on 29/9 at 16.00 at Scuola Grande di San Rocco in Venice. If you happen to be in Venice, drop by.



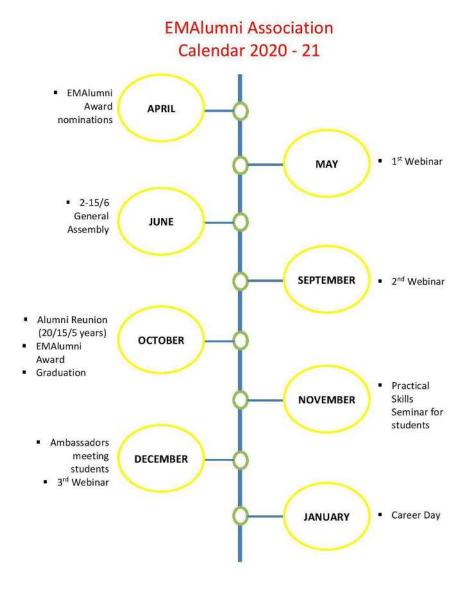
On 28 September there is a panel discussion at the Global Campus of Human Rights in Venice on *The Convention on the Right of the Child at 30 – What is needed to realize those rights?*. The event will take place at the Monastery of San Nicolo, Venice - Antonio Papisca Hall. The panel will consist of Manfred Nowak and a group of alumni from the Global Campus, including Milen Kidane, Benyam Mezmur, Katharina

Screendump from the EMAlumni Newsletter in September 2019.

# 5. Upcoming months

As a result of the board meeting in January, we came out with a comprehensive plans of actions, projects and deadlines for the following 12 months.

Below you can find the calendar of our planned activities.



# Contact



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**EMAlumni Association** 

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# Statute for the E.MAlumni Association ASBL

The Alumni Association of the European Masters' Degree in Human Rights and Democratisation

Adopted by the General Assembly 20-29 May 2016

As amended by the General Assembly 2-15 June 2020

#### **Preamble**

We, the Graduates of the European Master's <u>Degree</u> [Programme] in Human Rights and Democratisation (E.MA), Aspiring for the establishment of a lasting and fruitful dialogue between the Graduates, Acknowledging the crucial role of civil society in promoting Human Rights and Democratisation,

Stressing the importance of the European Inter-University Centre for Human Rights and Democratisation (EIUC) Global Campus for Human Rights with respect to education and research, in particular the organisation of the European Master's Degree [Programme] in Human Rights and Democratisation,

Acknowledging the important role of civil society organisations, the academic institutions and international organisations in promoting the European Master's <a href="Degree">Degree</a> [Programme] in Human Rights and Democratisation,

Stressing, in this regard, the importance of networking and cooperation and to promote human rights and democracy in Europe and throughout the world,

Confident that our common academic background and our professional experience can enable us to contribute to the above-mentioned endeavour,

Decide to create the Alumni Association of the European Master's <a href="Percentage-">Degree [Programme]</a> in Human Rights and Democratisation in accordance with the following Statutes. This Association is the successor of the E.MAlumni Association registered on 5 April 2006 in Italy and represents the continuation of its work and its values.

#### Title I. Name, Registered Office, Nature, Duration and Language

#### Article 1. Name

The Association is named "E.MAlumni Association", hereinafter the "Association". The Association is formed as a non-profit making Association pursuant to the provisions of the Act dated 27 June 1921 on non-profit making Associations, international non-profit making Associations and foundations and is subject to the respect of and uniformity to all current and future applicable legal requirements under the relevant Belgian legislation, including but not limited to the new "Code des sociétés et des association" adopted by law on March 23 2019 (hereinafter "The Code").

The name of the Association shall always be immediately preceded or followed by the words "Association sans but lucratif" or the initials "ASBL".

#### **Article 2. Registered Office**

The registered office of the Association shall be at Rue d'Edimbourg 26, 1050 Ixelles, in the judicial district of Brussels. The registered office can be transferred by decision of the General Assembly to

any other place in Belgium. Any modification of the registered office must be published in the Annexes of the Moniteur Belge.

#### **Article 3. Duration**

The duration of the Association is not limited.

#### **Article 4. Working Languages**

Working languages of the Association are English and French.

#### Title II. Aims and Fields of Activity

#### Article 5. Aim and Fields of Activity

- 1. The aims of the Association are to promote and reinforce contacts between its Members, at a professional as well as at an informal level, to support the activities of the European Inter-University Centre for Human Rights and Democratisation and to promote human rights and democracy in Europe and throughout the world.
- 2. The Association shall work towards these aims through the development and implementation of appropriate activities, including:
  - Promote and facilitate exchange and knowledge sharing among Members,;
  - Provide regular updates on the activities of Members, EIUC the Global Campus for Human Rights, the Global Campus (GC) other human rights institutions including through the Association's website;
  - Organise / facilitate activities and events focused on the professional development of Members as human rights professionals;
  - Participate in the Global Campus Association (GCA);
  - Represent the Members at regional and international human rights fora;
  - Build relations with relevant stakeholders such as other alumni Associations, academic organisations and human rights NGOs;
  - Contribute to the development of EIUC the Global Campus for Human Rights;
  - Raise funds singularly or in collaboration with Members to allow the Association to conduct its work and carry out its objectives.

#### Title III. Membership of the Association

### **Article 6. Categories of Membership**

The Association shall have four categories of Members: Basic Members, Full Members, Associate Members and Honorary Members.

An online register of all Basic and Full Members of the Association is kept by the Board at the registered office of the Association. The register includes the name, surname and address of the Full Members. All the decisions concerning the admission, resignation and exclusion of Full Members shall also be kept in this register. This register shall be open to consultation by the Members of the Association. The Board shall establish the modalities of consultation in accordance with the law.

#### Article 7. Basic Members

- 1. All graduates of the European Master's <a href="Pegree">Degree</a> [Programme] on Human Rights and Democratisation of the <a href="European Inter-University Centre">European Inter-University Centre</a> Global Campus for Human Rights may apply for basic Membership in the Association at any time. A written, non-formal request (including in the form of website registration) addressed to the Board suffices in this respect. The Board will confirm admission within 20 days from the reception of the request. Basic Membership becomes effective upon notification by the Board.
- 2. All Basic Members have the right to:
  - a. Receive all information concerning the Association and be invited to participate in activities of the Association as established by the General Assembly;
  - b. Consult the documents of the Association listed in Article 10 of the Act of 27 June 1921 on non-profit making Associations, international non-profit making Associations and foundations.

Additional rights may be granted by the General Assembly.

Any Basic Member may, at any time, resign from the Association, by expressing this intention in writing to the Board. The resignation shall be effective upon confirmation of receipt of the resignation letter by the Board.

#### **Article 8. Full Members**

- 1. The number of Full Members of the Association is at least three.
- 2. All graduates of the European Master's Degree [Programme] on Human Rights and Democratisation of the European Inter-University Centre Global Campus for Human Rights may apply for full Membership in the Association at any time. A written, non-formal request addressed to the Board suffices in this respect. The Board will confirm admission within 20 days from the reception of the request. Membership becomes effective upon payment of the annual full-Membership fee established by the Board.

3.

- a. The payment of the full-Membership fee is annual and gives right of Membership until the 31<sup>st</sup> of December of the same year in which the payment was made. This right expires on the 1<sup>st</sup> of January of the following year and is renewed with the payment of the full-Membership fee corresponding to the new year.
- b. Any Full Member who fails to pay the yearly Membership fee will be considered to have withdrawn his/her full Membership. The Board will notify the individual concerned of the change in status. He/she may lodge a complaint to the Board, which shall answer the complaint. Appeal is possible to the General Assembly, which shall be the last instance. The possibility for the individual to apply for full Membership again remains open.
- The full-Membership fee is established by the Board. Decisions concerning the amount of the fee shall never be retroactive. The maximum amount that can be established by the Board is euros.

- 5. All Full Members shall have the rights and obligations provided under The Code the Act dated 27

  June 1921 on non-profit making Associations, international non-profit making Associations

  and foundations and under the present Statutes. In particular, in addition to the rights granted to Basic Members, the all Full Members shall have the following rights to:
  - a. Receive all information concerning the Association and be invited to participate in all activities of the Association:
  - b. Participate and vote in the General Assembly if they have paid their full Membership fee;
  - c. Stand for election to the Board and to all other committees, Sub-Organs and functions within the Association;
  - d. Consult the documents of the Association listed in Article 10 of the Act of 27 June 1921 on non-profit making Associations, international non-profit making Associations and foundations.

Additional rights may be granted by the General Assembly.

Any Full Member may, at any time, resign from the Association, by expressing this intention in writing to the Board. The resignation shall be effective upon confirmation of receipt of the resignation letter by the Board.

#### **Article 9. Associate Members**

- Professors and other lecturers having taught at the European Master's Degree [Programme] in Human Rights and Democratisation, participants of other academic activities and events of the European Inter-University Centre Global Campus for Human Rights, teaching fellows and former teaching fellows of the European Master's Degree [Programme] in Human Rights and Democratisation, and staff and former staff of European Inter-University Centre have the possibility to apply for Associate Membership.
- 2. A written, non-formal request addressed to the Board suffices to apply for Associate Membership. The Board will confirm admission within 20 days from the reception of the request. Membership becomes effective upon payment of the annual Associate Membership fee established by the Board.

3.

- a. The payment of the Associate Membership fee is annual and gives right of Membership until the 31<sup>st</sup> of December of the same year in which the payment was made. This right expires on the 1<sup>st</sup> of January of the following year and is renewed with the payment of the associate Membership fee corresponding to the new year.
- b. Any Associate Member who fails to pay the yearly fee will be considered to have withdrawn his/her associate Membership. The Board will notify the individual concerned of the change in status. He/she may lodge a complaint to the Board, which shall answer the complaint. Appeal is possible to the General Assembly, which shall be the last instance. The possibility for the individual to apply for Membership again remains open.
- 4. The Associate Membership fee is established by the Board. Decisions concerning the amount of the fee shall never be retroactive. The maximum amount that can be established by the Board is 100 euros.
- 5. All Associate Members have the right to:
  - a. Receive all information concerning the Association and be invited to participate in all activities of the Association;
  - b. Participate in the General Assembly without vote;

c. Consult the documents of the Association listed in Article 10 of the Act of 27 June 1921 on non-profit making Associations, international non-profit making Associations and foundations.

Additional rights may be granted by the General Assembly.

- 6. Associate Members cannot serve on the Board. Nor can an Associate Member chair any Organ and Sub-Organ of the Association, unless the General Assembly decides otherwise.
- 7. Any Associate Member may, at any time, resign from the Association, by expressing this intention in writing to the Board. The resignation shall be effective upon confirmation of receipt of the resignation letter by the Board.

#### **Article 10. Honorary Members**

1. Any physical or legal person of high moral standing and integrity may be appointed as Honorary Member of the Association by the General Assembly, with his / her consent.

2.

- a. Honorary Members may receive information concerning the Association and may be invited by the Board or the General Assembly to participate in the meetings and activities.
- b. Honorary Members cannot vote in the General Assembly, but they enjoy a consultative role and they may be invited to express their opinions and ideas in the framework of the General Assembly.
- c. Honorary Members cannot serve on the Board. Nor can an Honorary Member chair any Organ, committee and Sub-Organ of the Association, unless the General Assembly decides otherwise.
- 3. Honorary Members can withdraw from the Association at any time, by expressing this intention to the Board. The resignation shall be effective upon confirmation of receipt of the resignation letter by the Board.

#### **Article 11. General Provisions**

1. Basic Members, Full Members, Associate Members and Honorary Members are bound to respect the Statutes and the decisions taken by the Board and the General Assembly.

2.

- a. A Basic Member, a Full Member, an Associate Member or an Honorary Member may be excluded from the Association when he/she:
  - a.l. Refuses to act in accordance with the Statutes, with the decisions of the Board acting within its mandate, and/or with the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly;
  - a.II. Causes a material damage to the Association or brings the Association into disrepute.
  - a.III. Any other reason included in the applicable law, including but not limited to The Code, and not expressly recalled in this statute.
- b. The Board, after offering the individual concerned the possibility to bring forward arguments for the disputed behaviour, and having informed the individual concerned, may propose his/her exclusion to the General Assembly. During this procedure, the Basic Member, the Full Member, Associate Member or Honorary Member is suspended.

c. The General Assembly will decide on the exclusion of the Basic Member, Full Member, Associate Member or Honorary Member. The exclusion needs a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the votes of the Full Members present and represented.

The excluded Member has no right to the resources of the Association and cannot claim reimbursement of the Membership fee.

3.

- a. Any Member is free to withdraw from the Association by submitting his / her resignation to the Board.
- b. The Member who resigned has no right to the resources of the Association and cannot claim reimbursement of the Membership fee.

#### **Title IV. Organisational Structure**

#### **Article 12. Structure and Organs**

- 1. The Organs of the Association are:
  - the General Assembly;
  - the Board; and
  - the President
- 2. To the extent permitted by the Law and the Statutes of the Association, the General Assembly and the Board may appoint specific persons or create committees or Sub-organs to carry out certain parts of the tasks under their responsibility.

#### Article 13. The General Assembly

- The General Assembly is the supreme decision-making body of the Association. Its decisions are binding on all the Members, the Board, the President, the Secretary General, the committees and the Sub-Organs of the Associations. A General Assembly decision can only be overturned by a subsequent General Assembly decision.
- 2. The General Assembly shall consist of all Full Members.
- 3. The General Assembly is convened by the Board in the cases provided by the law or the Statutes or upon request of at least one-fifth (1/5) of the Full Members.
- 4. Basic Members, Associate Members, Honorary Members, the Secretary General, the vérificateurs aux comptes, and any person appointed by the General Assembly or the Board to carry out specific tasks or to be a Member of any committee or Sub-Organ of the Association may be invited to the General Assembly meetings. The General Assembly may decide to invite other persons to attend the meeting.
- 5. Only Full Members who are not suspended and who have paid their full Membership fee have the right to vote in General Assembly meetings. Each Full Member has one vote. Resolutions are passed by simple majority of the Full Members present or represented, with the exception

of the cases envisaged by the Law or by the Statutes. The General Assembly can only decide validly on points that appear in the agenda. Decisions on points not included in the agenda can only be validly taken if the General Assembly approves this by a majority of the Full Members.

Invitations shall be sent by mail, facsimile, email or any other written or electronic means. The invitation shall include the date, venue and time, as well as the agenda, of the meeting. Invitations shall be sent at least eight (8) days before the General Assembly meeting. In cases where the General Assembly is convened upon request of at least one-fifth (1/5) of the Full Members, invitations shall be sent within eight (8) days of the request and the General Assembly meeting shall be held at the latest on the fortieth (40<sup>th</sup>) day following the request.

- 6. Any Full Member of the Association who cannot participate in the General Assembly can appoint another Full Member to vote for him/her subject to having a proxy.
- 7. General Assembly meetings shall be deemed validly organized if at least half (1/2) of the Full Members are present or represented. If the presence quorum is not met, a second date shall be proposed. This second General Assembly meeting will be validly held irrespective of the number of Members in attendance.
- 8. The Assembly is chaired by the President of the Association. In case of absence or impediment, the President shall be replaced by the Vice-President of the Association. If no Vice-President was appointed or in case of absence or impediment, the Vice-President shall be replaced by the longest serving Full Member personally present.
- 9. The resolutions of the General Assembly are recorded in minutes. These minutes are signed by the Chairperson of the General Assembly meeting and the Secretary General. They shall be personally communicated to all Basic Members, Full Members, Associate Members and Honorary Members by mail, facsimile, email or any other written or electronic means and shall be published on the Association's website.
- 10. The General Assembly may perform its duties, debate and take resolutions by way of audio modes of communications (such as teleconference) or by visual modes of communications (such as videoconference or Skype), provided that all the participants (i) can be identified by the Chairperson of the General Assembly meeting and by all the other Members in attendance and (ii) are allowed to follow and take part in the discussion of the items of the agenda and to review any documents related thereto. All the above shall be recorded in the minutes of the General Assembly meeting.
- 11. The following powers are restrictively reserved to the General Assembly:
  - a. Discussing about and deciding upon any question or matter within the scope of the present Statutes and the general directions of the Association;
  - b. Amendments to the Statutes of the Association;
  - c. Appointment and dismissal of the Board Members;
  - d. Election of the President of the Association;
  - e. Appointment and dismissal of the *vérificateurs aux comptes* and determination of their compensation in cases compensation is awarded;

- f. Review of the activities of the Board, approval of the Board report to the General Assembly on the status and activities of the Association, and discharge to the Board Members;
- g. Discuss and approve general directives for the Association;
- h. Approval of the annual accounts and the budget;
- i. Approval of the reports of the *vérificateurs aux comptes*', as long as the *vérificateurs aux comptes* are elected in accordance with paragraph 13 of the present article;
- j. Discharge of the Board and the vérificateurs aux comptes;
- k. Deciding upon the financial means by which the activities of the Association shall be funded;
- I. Dissolution of the Association and allocation of the Association's remaining assets;
- m. Expulsion of a Member;
- n. Adoption and amendment to the Internal Rules of the Association;
- o. All other decisions as set out in the Statutes of the Association.

The competences listed here are without prejudice of Article 4 of the Act of 27 June 1921 on non-profit making Associations, international non-profit making Associations and foundations.

- 12. The General Assembly can also hold extraordinary meetings if requested by the Board or by at least one-fifth (1/5) of all Full Members. The reason for convening an extraordinary General Assembly meeting shall be clearly stated in the invitation.
- 13. The General Assembly may appoint up to two *vérificateurs aux comptes*. The duration of the mandates of the *vérificateurs aux comptes* shall be the same as that of the Board. The *vérificateurs aux comptes* shall be responsible for keeping the financial accounts in order and for monitoring the proper financial management of the organisation.

#### Article 14. The Board

1. The Association shall be managed by the Board. The Board shall consist of the President of the Association, and eight (8) other Full Members of the Association elected by the General Assembly. The Members of the Board can never be less than three (3).

Among these eight (8) Full Members, the President will appoint a Vice—President who will stand for him/her in case of absence or impediment. The President may also appoint a treasurer responsible for the drafting of the budget of the Association, in accordance with the directions given by the General Assembly as well as for preparing a draft proposal of the financial statements and accounts to be discussed by the Board and presented to the General Assembly for approval.

The mandates of the Board Members shall not be remunerated.

Board Members act individually as they carry out particular projects and tasks specifically entrusted to them. When taking decisions as a Board, Board Members act collegially. All Board Members bear the responsibilities in solidarity arising from The Code.

The Secretary General participates in the Board meetings with consultative status.

2. The Board Members shall be elected by the General Assembly for a period of two years. Elections will take place yearly. A half of the Board will be elected each time, while the other half will continue its

two-year mandate. Any Member of the Board may be re-elected after his/her first term of office has expired, for no more than two more terms. In the composition of the Board, the General Assembly shall have due regard to the representation of graduation years of the European Master. Their appointment will be formalised in accordance with Article 9 of the Act of 27 June 1921 on non-profit making Associations, international non-profit making Associations and foundations.

- 3. If a Board Member resigns or is unable to pursue her/his mandate, the other Members of the Board will be collectively responsible for the activities of the vacant Board post or may collectively appoint an interim replacement to hold office until the next General Assembly meeting, at which a new Board Member shall be elected. The replacement will be sought preferably among the candidates to the last board election who were not elected to the board according to the result of the election.
- 4. A Board Member may be dismissed by the General Assembly by a majority of two-thirds (2/3) of the Full Members if either:
  - a. the Board Member does not satisfactorily perform his/her tasks; or
  - b. the Board Member violates the Statutes or acts against the interest of the Association.
- 5. Meetings of the Board shall be called by the President of the Board. Invitations shall be sent to the Board Members, at least seven (7) days before the meeting. The invitations shall include the date, venue and time, as well as the agenda, of the meeting. Minutes shall be kept of each meeting of the Board.
- 6. The Board can validly deliberate when the majority of its Members are present. The decisions of the Board shall be validly adopted by a simple majority of the votes of the Members present.
- 7. The Board may perform its duties, debate and take decisions by way of audio modes of communications (such as teleconference) or by visual modes of communications (such as videoconference or Skype), provided that all the participants can be identified by the President and by all the other Members in attendance and are allowed to follow and take part in the discussion of the items of the agenda and to review any documents related thereto. All the above shall be recorded in the minutes of the Board meeting.
- 8. The Board is the executive body of the Association. It shall be vested with the widest powers to perform all the acts of management and administration necessary or useful to achieve the purpose and objectives of the Association, except for those powers that the Law or the Statutes reserve to the General Assembly.

The tasks of the Board are in particular to:

- a. Execute and implement the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly;
- b. Adopt an annual operational plan for the implementation of the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly;
- c. Prepare the agenda of the General Assembly meetings including any proposal signed by at least one-twentieth (1/20) of the Full Members and, if deemed relevant and appropriate, any proposal by the President of the Association, an Associate Member or an Honorary Member, a Sub-organ of the Association or a person appointed by the General Assembly or the Board for a specific task; Prepare the budget of the Association, in accordance with the directions given

by the General Assembly and present it to the General Assembly for approval;

- d. Prepare the financial statements and the annual accounts and present them to the General Assembly for approval;
- e. Prepare a report on the status on the activities of the Association for presentation and approval by the General Assembly;
- f. Appoint and dismiss the Secretary General;
- g. Appoint and dismiss all the employees and Members of staff of the Association, in consultation with the President and Secretary General; Fix, in consultation with the President, the duties, salaries and emoluments of the Secretary General, the employees and Members of staff of the Association;
- h. Determine the Membership fee for the various categories of Membership;
- i. Discuss and decide on the acceptance of contributions and/or donations from public entities or organisations and from the private sector;
- j. Represent the Association towards third parties in judicial and non-judicial matters. This representation can be delegated to the President of the Association or to one or several persons;
- k. Ensure that the powers delegated to the Secretary General, the committees and Sub-Organs are properly exercised.

The Board shall be accountable to the General Assembly for its actions and decisions.

9. To the extent permitted by the Law and by the Statutes, the Board may, on its own authority, delegate the powers of daily management or specific parts of its own powers to one or more Board Members, to the President or to the Secretary General. The Board may also create committees and Sub-Organs or appoint any person to carry out some tasks.

The composition, objectives and operating procedures of these committees and Sub-Organs shall be fixed by the Board. These persons, committees and sub-Organs shall carry out the specific tasks under the responsibility of the Board. The Board shall be accountable to the General Assembly for the activities of these persons, committees and Sub-Organs.

Those delegations shall be formalised in accordance with Article 9 of the Act of 27 June 1921 on non-profit making Associations, international non-profit making Associations and foundations.

The Board also represents the Association in dealing with third parties (hereinafter Power of Representation). The Association shall be validly bound to third parties by the joint signatures of two board members, namely the president and another board member, who will bear signatory powers in order to execute any act deemed necessary in compliance with all applicable Law and statutory. The Secretary General will be given power of attorney for the daily administration of the association.

#### **Article 15. The President of the Association**

- 1. The President of the Association is elected by the General Assembly.
- 2. The President shall convene the Board. He/she normally acts as Chairperson of the Board. The President of the Association supervises the implementation of the directions and decisions of the General Assembly and the activities of the Board, including within the context of the

- operational plan. The President of the Association supervises the proper functioning of the staff, committees and Sub-Organs
- 3. The President of the Association shall ensure that the Association operates in conformity with the Law and the Statutes of the Association.

#### **Article 16. The Secretary General**

Subject to the availability of funds, the Board may appoint a Secretary General. The Secretary
General receives a remuneration determined by the Board for his/her functions in accordance
with Belgian labour legislation. His/her appointment will be formalised in accordance with Article
9 of the Act of 27 June 1921 on non-profit making Associations, international non-profit making
Associations and foundations.

The Secretary General can be dismissed, in accordance with Belgian law, when he/she:

- a.l. Refuses to act in accordance with the Statutes of the Association, with the decisions of the Board acting within its mandate, and/or with the decisions taken by the General Assembly;
- a.II. Causes a material damage to the Association or brings the Association into disrepute;
- a. III. Fails to comply with his/her contractual duties or acts beyond his/her mandate or fails to follow the instructions of the Board or the President.

The Secretary General also ceases his/her functions by resignation, inability to exercise his/her functions or death.

2. Upon delegation by the Board and subject to the instructions given by the President, the Secretary General may be responsible for the daily management of the Association and represent the Association in its day-to-day business.

The Secretary General shall in particular:

- a. Participate in the Board meetings with consultative status;
- b. Assist the Board in the drafting of the annual operational plan for the implementation of the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly;
- c. Assist the Board in preparing and presenting the annual accounts and the budget of the Association;
- d. Control and co-ordinate the activities of the Association's employees and Members of staff;
- e. Perform any other specific task conferred to him/her by an ad hoc decision of the Board.

## **Title V. Resources of the Association**

#### Article 17. Financial resources

1. The resources of the Association consist of (i) annual Membership fees, and (ii) donations, subsidies, funds or grants received from private and public bodies or organisations, whether in cash or in kind, provided however that such funds are authorized by law and are not tied to

conditions contrary to the aims and object of the Association. These amounts shall be paid into the Association's account.

- 2. Full and Associate Members of the Association shall pay an annual Membership fee, whose amounts shall be fixed by the Board.
- 3. All the financial resources of the Association shall be properly and accurately accounted for by the Board and supervised by the *vérificateurs aux comptes*.

#### **Article 18. Fiscal Year and Annual Accounts**

- 1. The fiscal year of the Association runs from 1<sup>st</sup> January to 31<sup>st</sup> December.
- 2. The Board shall submit the accounts of the year ended and the budget for the following financial year to the General Assembly for approval. The General Assembly shall decide on these at the upcoming meeting of the General Assembly, no later than six months after closing the financial year.

#### **Title VI. Final Provisions**

#### **Article 19. Internal Rules**

The General Assembly may adopt Internal Rules, which will regulate the implementation of these Statutes in detail.

#### Article 20. Amendments to the Statutes

Amendments to the Statutes of the Association shall be approved by the General Assembly.

Amending the Statutes is only possible if the proposed modification has been mentioned in full details on the agenda of the General Assembly meeting.

The General Assembly can only decide on the modification of the Statutes if at least two-thirds (2/3) of the Full Members are present or represented. A two-third (2/3) majority of the votes of these Full Members is required to amend the Statutes. However, if the amendment relates to the aims of the Association, a four-fifth (4/5) majority of the votes of the Full Members present and represented is required.

If the two-thirds (2/3) quorum is not met, another General Assembly meeting shall be convened no earlier than fifteen (15) days after the first meeting. At this second meeting, the General Assembly can validly decide on the amendments to the Statutes regardless of the number of Full Members present or represented. Amendments to the Statutes require a two-third (2/3) majority of the votes of the Full Members present or represented. Amendments to the aims of the Association require a four-fifth (4/5) majority of the votes of the Full Members present and represented.

#### **Article 21. Dissolution**

The dissolution of the Association can only be pronounced by the General Assembly if at least two-thirds (2/3) of the Full Members are present or represented. A four-fifth (4/5) majority of the

votes of the Full Members present or represented is required.

Deciding upon the dissolution of the Association is only possible if the proposed dissolution has been mentioned in full details on the agenda of the General Assembly meeting.

The General Assembly may validly proceed if at least two-thirds (2/3) of the Full Members are present or represented. If this quorum is not met, another General Assembly shall be convened no earlier than fifteen (15) days after the first meeting. At this second meeting, the General Assembly can validly decide on the dissolution of the Association regardless of the number of Full Members present or represented. A four-fifth (4/5) majority of the votes of the Full Members present or represented is required to decide on the dissolution of the Association.

In the event of the dissolution of the Association, the General Assembly shall appoint one or more liquidators. The General Assembly shall decide upon the allocation of the Association's remaining assets. The assets shall be allocated to one or more non-profit making Associations, whose purposes are as akin as possible to the purpose for which the Association was incorporated.

#### Transitory provisions

#### Composition of the Board

After the election of the first Board, its Members will determine by lot four Board Members whose mandates will expire after one year in order to ensure the yearly partial renovation of the Board established in Article 13(2). The President will be exempted from the drawing of lots. After that first year, the General Assembly will hold elections for four Board Members.