



ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe Party, eupp

adopted by the ALDE Party Congress in Vienna, Austria on 4 July 2026

CHAPTER I - NAME, REGISTERED OFFICE, PURPOSE AND TERM OF THE ASSOCIATION

Article 1 – Name and logo

A European political party, is hereby incorporated under European law. Its name is “**Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe Party**”, abbreviated as “**ALDE Party**” hereinafter referred to as the “**Association**”. Both the full and the abbreviated names may be used indistinguishably.

All acts, invoices, announcements, publicity, letters, orders and other documents issued by the Association, shall indicate the full name or the abbreviated name of the Association preceded or followed by the words “European party” (abbreviated EUPP), as well as the indication of the registered office of the Association.

The Association is governed by the Regulation 2025/2445 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 November 2025 on the statute and funding of European political parties and European political foundations (the “**Regulation**”), as well by the Code of Companies and Associations as introduced by the Act of 23 March 2019 (the “Code”) for the legal matters that are not covered by the Regulation, as provided under Article 14 of the Regulation.

The logo of the Association is attached as Annex I to the Statutes.

Article 2 – Registered office

The registered office of the Association is located at B-1050 Brussels, rue d’Idalie, 11. The registered office may be transferred to any other location in the EU by a decision of the Bureau.

Article 3 – Purpose and objectives

The Association observes the values on which the Union is founded, as expressed in Article 2 TEU, namely respect for human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law and respect for human rights, including the rights of persons belonging to minorities.

The Association has as non-profit purpose to bring together political parties and citizens in Europe who, within the framework of liberal, democratic and reformist ideals, wish to contribute to the European Union.

To achieve this purpose, the Association will:

- strengthen the liberal, democrat and reform movement in the European Union and throughout Europe;

- seek a common position on all important matters affecting the European Union;
- inform the public and involve it in the construction of a united European democracy;
- support and co-ordinate its members in the context of the elections to the European Parliament;
- promote the constitution of a Liberal, Democrat and Reform parliamentary group in all international parliamentary assemblies;
- develop close working relationships with and among its members, their national parliamentary groups, the parliamentary Group of the ALDE Party in the European Parliament, in other international fora and Liberal International.

The Association may carry out all operations and conduct all activities, in Europe, which directly or indirectly increase or promote its purpose and objectives.

Article 4 – Term

The Association is incorporated for an unlimited period of time.

Article 5 – Youth Organisation

European Liberal Youth, abbreviated as LYMEC, is the associated youth entity of the Association. They have the right to take part in the meetings of the Council and the Congress, to voice their opinion and to vote, as specified in the Internal Regulations.

Article 6 – Foundation

The affiliated European political foundation of the Association is the European Liberal Forum. It is formally affiliated to the Association and through its activities, within the aims and fundamental values pursued by the European Union, underpins and complements the objectives of the political party at European level.

Article 7 – Gender balance

ALDE Party promotes gender balance and the active participation of women and all genders in all its activities and bodies.

CHAPTER II - MEMBERS

Article 8 – Criteria for membership, categories of members and rights and obligations of members

Membership of the Association is open to all political parties in Europe that accept these Articles of Association, the Internal Regulations of the Association, the policy programmes of the Association and the Charter of Values.

The Association shall be composed of at least two full members. The Association shall consist of full and associated members and observer parties, natural persons or legal entities lawfully established in accordance with the laws and customs of their country of origin.

If a candidate member is a legal entity and no natural person, in accordance with the laws and the customs of its country of origin, it shall, in its written application for membership, appoint a natural person, who will act on behalf and for the account of all the members of such candidate member, in his/her capacity of common attorney-in-fact.

73 EU full members and observer parties shall pay a membership fee according to the Internal
74 Regulations. Their delegates have the right to take part in the meetings of the Council and the
75 Congress and to voice their opinion. Only members have voting rights.

76 Member parties from members of the European Free Trade Association (EFTA), former
77 Member States, candidate countries, countries entitled to use the euro as their official currency
78 on the basis of a monetary agreement with the Union, partner countries that have
79 a stabilisation and association agreement with the Union as well as European countries with
80 whom the Union has concluded Association Agreements establishing a Deep and
81 Comprehensive Free Trade Area can become associated members and participate in the
82 activities of the party. They will be charged based on cost of their engagement. They may not
83 together vote in any body or committee of the Association for a number of votes exceeding
84 one third of the number of votes cast in each ballot. When applicable, associated member
85 parties' votes shall be subject to proportional reduction in the calculation of the results of the
86 relevant ballot.

87 Article 9 – Members of the European Parliament

88 All members of the parliamentary group of the party elected on a list of a member party are
89 also affiliate members ex-officio of the Association. Other members of the European
90 Parliament can affiliate on an individual basis to the Association.

91 Article 10 – Register of members and members list

92 A register containing an up-to-date list of all full and associated members and observer parties
93 of the Association will be held at the registered office.

94 Full and associated members and observer parties may have access to the register at the
95 registered office of the Association.

96 The list of full and associated members and observer parties of the Association is annexed as
97 Annex II to the Statutes.

98 Article 11 – Admission of members

99 Any application for full and associated membership and observer status shall be sent to the
100 Bureau with all necessary documentation evidencing that the applicant fulfils the membership
101 requirements. The Bureau shall submit the application and its preliminary report and opinion
102 to the Council, which will examine whether or not the application meets the membership
103 requirements. The Council shall take its decision with a majority of two-thirds of the votes cast.
104 The decision of the Council to admit or not the applicant shall be final, and the Council shall be
105 under no obligation to justify its decision.

106 Observer parties can apply for membership at any time.

107 Article 12 – Resignation of members

108 Any full or associated member or observer party may resign from the Association at any time by
109 giving three months' notice by registered letter addressed to the Secretary General. The
110 resignation shall only come into force at the end of the financial year, unless specified otherwise.

111 A resigning member will remain liable for its financial obligations vis-à-vis the Association until the
112 end of the financial year during which its resignation takes place.

113 Article 13 – Disaffiliation of members

114 If a full member fails to meet its financial obligations after a notice sent by the Secretary
115 General to settle its debts within a period of three months, the voting rights of the full member
116 will be suspended as from the end of the three months period.

117 If a full or associated member fails to meet its financial obligations, the membership rights will be
118 suspended until aforementioned financial obligations are met.

119 If a full member fails to meet its financial obligations for two consecutive financial years, it will be
120 considered as having been disaffiliated as from the end of the meeting of the Council that took
121 note of the disaffiliation.

122 If an associated member does not participate in the activities of the ALDE Party and/or fails to
123 pay invoices for the cost of their participation for two consecutive financial years, it will be
124 considered as having been disaffiliated as from the end of the Council that took note of its
125 disaffiliation.

126 If an observer party does not participate in the activities of the ALDE Party and/or fails to pay
127 invoices for the cost of their participation for two consecutive financial years, it will be considered
128 as having been disaffiliated as from the end of the Council that took note of its disaffiliation.

129 The disaffiliated member will remain liable for its financial obligations until the end of that financial
130 year.

131 Article 14 – Suspension of members

132 Any member may be suspended for any of the following reasons:

- 133 (i) not abiding by the Articles of Association or the Internal Regulations;
- 134 (ii) not abiding by the decisions of any body of the Association;
- 135 (iii) not fulfilling the conditions for membership anymore;
- 136 (iv) not abiding by Regulation 2025/2445;
- 137 (v) when it acts contrary to the interests and the values of the Association in general.

138 At the request of at least seven full and associated members from at least five countries who
139 have fulfilled their membership obligations, the Bureau can be instructed to put the proposal
140 on the agenda of the next meeting of the Council.

141 Such request must be received in writing at least four weeks ahead of the Council meeting, in
142 the form of a letter addressed to the President of the Association from the respective party
143 leader, Secretary General or President, in which the detailed reasons for the request for
144 suspension are outlined. The Bureau may make a recommendation to the Council.

145 If suspended, the member loses its right to take part in the meetings of the Council and the
146 Congress, to voice its opinion and to vote as specified in the Internal Regulations and shall
147 remain liable for its financial obligations vis-à-vis the Association until the end of the financial
148 year during which its suspension takes place. The suspended member may, at the discretion
149 of the President, be invited to attend Council or Congress meetings without voting right.

150 The status of the suspended member shall be reviewed at the subsequent meeting of the
151 Council or after a period of at least six months.

152 A suspended member can regain its membership status upon the approval of the Council in a
153 subsequent meeting and if proven to have complied with the Articles of Association, Internal
154 Regulations, criteria for membership and any conditions determined by the Council. If not, the

155 Council may validly decide on the expulsion of the suspended member at the occasion of the
156 same meeting.

157 The decision to suspend a full or an associated member or observer party is taken by the
158 Council with a majority of 50%+1 of the votes cast. Within 15 calendar days of the meeting of
159 the Council, the Secretary General shall send a copy of the decision to the suspended member
160 by registered mail, facsimile, email, or any other written means. The suspension decision shall
161 set forth the grounds on which the suspension is based but apart from that, the decision does
162 not need to be justified.

163 Article 15 – Expulsion of members

164 Any member may be expelled for any of the following reasons:

- 165 (i) not abiding by the Articles of Association or the Internal Regulations;
- 166 (ii) not abiding by the decisions of any body of the Association;
- 167 (iii) not fulfilling the conditions for membership anymore;
- 168 (iv) not abiding by Regulation 2025/2445;
- 169 (v) when it acts contrary to the interests and the values of the Association in general.

170 At the request of at least seven full or associated members from at least five countries who
171 have fulfilled their membership obligations, the Bureau can be instructed to put the proposal
172 on the agenda of the next meeting of the Council.

173 Such request must be received in writing at least four weeks ahead of the Council meeting, in
174 the form of a letter addressed to the President of the Association from the respective party
175 leader, Secretary General or President of each party, in which the detailed reasons for the
176 request for expulsion are outlined. The Bureau may make a recommendation to the Council.

177 The full, associated or suspended member or suspended observer party will be informed of a
178 proposal for their expulsion by registered mail, facsimile, email, or any other written means
179 and shall be invited to participate in the Council meeting. The letter sets forth the grounds on
180 which the proposed expulsion is based. If requested, it may also provide documentation for
181 inclusion in the dossier for Council members, which must be sent to the secretariat at least
182 one week ahead of the Council meeting.

183 The Council decides on the expulsion of full, associated or suspended member or suspended
184 observer party with a majority of two-thirds of the votes cast.

185 The expulsion shall come into force immediately and the expelled member shall remain liable for
186 its financial obligations vis-à-vis the Association until the end of the financial year.

187 A member who has resigned, has been disaffiliated, or has been expelled shall have no claim
188 against the assets of the Association.

189 **CHAPTER III – BODIES OF THE ASSOCIATION**

190 Article 16 – The bodies of the Association

- 191 (i) The Congress;
- 192 (ii) The Council;
- 193 (iii) The Bureau.

CHAPTER IV - CONGRESS

Article 17 – Composition and powers

The Congress shall consist of all full and associated members' delegates, delegates of observer parties as well as the members of the Bureau.

In accordance with the Internal Regulations, third parties may be granted the right to take part in a meeting of the Congress. They may voice their opinion but do not have the right to vote.

The decisions taken by the Congress shall be binding on all members, including those absent, dissenting or abstaining from voting, as well as suspended members.

The following powers are restrictively reserved to the Congress:

- a) election, dismissal and discharge of the members of the Bureau;
- b) amendments to the Articles of Association;
- c) dissolution and liquidation of the Association;
- d) approval of the common political programme for the European elections;
- e) election of a common top candidate(s) for the European elections.

Article 18 – Notices and meetings

The Council convenes the Congress. Congress shall meet at least once in each calendar year and not more than 18 months must elapse between two meetings of the Congress.

The Bureau or the Council or at least one quarter of the full or associated members may convene extraordinary meetings of the Congress.

The notice is sent by mail, facsimile, email, or any other written means. For the rest, the rules related to the agenda, timetable and conduct of the meetings of the Congress will be laid down in the Internal Regulations.

Article 19 – Representation

Full and associated members' delegates and delegates of observer parties appointed in accordance with the rules laid down in the Internal Regulations will represent full and associated members and observer parties at the Congress.

Associated members' delegates will be limited to maximum 1/3 of the total number of delegates.

Each full and associated member will have as many votes as delegates. A delegate may cast two votes at most.

Article 20 – Proceedings, quorums and votes

The delegates shall sign an attendance list of full and associated members and observer parties prior to the meeting; under the name of the member they represent.

The Congress may validly proceed if at least one third of the full and associated members who have fulfilled their membership obligations are present. Where this quorum is not reached, a new meeting of the Congress shall be called no earlier than 15 calendar days after the first meeting. The second meeting of the Congress shall be entitled to validly take decisions, irrespective of the number of members present.

232 Decisions of the Congress shall be taken with a simple majority of the votes cast. Abstentions
233 shall not be taken into account, and, in the case of a written vote, blank and invalid votes will
234 not be counted in the votes cast. In the case of a tie vote, the decision will be rejected.

235 Article 21 – Minutes

236 The decisions of the Congress are recorded in minutes. The minutes are approved during the
237 next meeting of the Congress and signed by the Chair of the approving Congress.

238 The minutes are kept in a register, at the members' disposal at the registered office of the
239 Association. A copy of the minutes is also sent out to all full and associated members.

240 **CHAPTER IV - COUNCIL**

241 Article 22 – Composition and powers

242 The Council shall consist of all full and associated members' delegates and observer parties'
243 delegates as well as the members of the Bureau.

244 In accordance with the rules laid down in the Internal Regulations, third parties may be granted
245 the right to take part in a meeting of the Council. They may voice their opinion but do not have
246 voting rights.

247 The decisions taken by the Council shall be binding on all members, including those absent,
248 dissenting or abstaining from voting, as well as suspended members.

249 The following powers are restrictively reserved to the Council:

- 250 a) approval of the annual accounts, the annual report, the budget, the membership fees
251 and any other form of financing as proposed by the Bureau;
- 252 b) admission, disaffiliation, suspension and expulsion of full or associated members and
253 observer parties;
- 254 c) approval and amendments to the Internal Regulations;
- 255 d) preparation of the common political programme for the European elections to be
256 approved by the Congress;
- 257 e) interpretation of the Articles of Association and the Internal Regulations;
- 258 f) confirmation of the Bureau's decision to appoint the Secretary General
- 259 g) amending the Annex I to the Articles of Association on the logo of the Association and
260 the Annex II to the Articles of Association on the list of members (member parties) of
261 the Association.

262 Article 23 – Notices and meetings

263 The Council is convened by the Bureau each time this is necessary for the interests of the
264 Association or upon written request of one quarter of the full and associated members who
265 have fulfilled their membership obligations.

266 At least two meetings of the Council must be held every year.

267 The notice is sent by mail, facsimile, email, or any other written means. For the rest, the rules
268 related to the agenda, timetable and conduct of the meetings of the Council will be laid down
269 in the Internal Regulations.

270 Article 24 – Representation

271 Full and associated members' delegates and observer party delegates, appointed in accordance
272 with the rules laid down in the Internal Regulations will represent full and associated members
273 and observer parties at the Council.

274 Each full and associated member will have as many votes as delegates.

275 Associated members' delegates will be limited to maximum 1/3 of the total number of
276 delegates.

277 Article 25 – Proceedings, quorums and votes

278 The delegates shall sign an attendance list of full and associated members and observer
279 parties prior to the meeting; under the name of the member they represent.

280 Unless otherwise provided for in the Articles of Association, a Council may validly proceed if
281 at least one third of the full and associated members are present who have fulfilled their
282 membership obligations. Where this quorum is not reached, a new meeting of the Council shall
283 be called no earlier than 15 calendar days after the first meeting. The second meeting of the
284 Council shall be entitled to validly take decisions, irrespective of the number of present
285 members.

286 Unless otherwise provided for in the Articles of Association, decisions of the Council shall be
287 taken with a simple majority of the votes cast. Abstentions shall not be taken into account, and,
288 in the case of a written vote, blank and invalid votes shall not be counted in the votes cast. In
289 the case of a tie vote, the decision will be rejected.

290 Decisions of the Council may also be taken by circular letter, in accordance with the rules laid
291 down in the Internal Regulations. Decisions taken by circular letter are deemed to be taken at
292 the registered office of the Association and are deemed to come into force on the date
293 mentioned on the circular letter.

294 Article 26 – Minutes

295 The decisions of the Council are recorded in the minutes which are approved during the next
296 meeting of the Council and signed by the Chair of the approving Council.

297 The minutes are kept in a register, at the members' disposal at the registered office of the
298 Association. A copy of the minutes is also sent to all full and associated members.

299 **CHAPTER VI – BUREAU**

300 Article 27 – Composition, powers and elections

301 The Bureau shall consist of 11 members, elected by the Congress, amongst whom a
302 President, nine Vice Presidents and a Treasurer. The mandate of Bureau members' term starts
303 immediately at the Congress of election and expires at the second ordinary Congress thereafter.
304 Members of the Bureau cannot serve more than three consecutive terms in the same position
305 and no more than four terms in total.

306 No more than 1/3 of the total number of Bureau members can be from an associated member
307 party.

308 Member parties shall be mindful of the aim for a gender balanced Bureau.

309 The President and the Treasurer shall have the citizenship of an EU Member State and be a
310 member of an EU member party.

311 Bureau members serve the Association as a whole and are not representatives of their national
312 member parties. In this right they are entrusted with voting rights as further specified in the
313 Internal Regulations.

314 In accordance with the rules laid down in the Internal Regulations, third parties may be invited
315 to take part in a meeting of the Bureau, as observers. Observers may voice their opinion but
316 do not have the right to vote.

317 The function of member of the Bureau is not remunerated. Reasonable expenses supported
318 by appropriate documentary evidence will be reimbursed.

319 The Bureau shall be vested with the power to undertake any act necessary or useful to achieve
320 the purpose and objectives of the Association, including the nomination and termination of the
321 contract of the Secretary General, except for those powers that the Code or these Articles of
322 Association reserve to the Council or the Congress.

323 Each member of the Bureau shall present an activity report in the capacity of Bureau member
324 to be included in the dossier for each meeting of the Congress and Council.

325 The Bureau may set up advisory and working groups for any purpose it thinks fit. The composition,
326 terms of reference and the rules of procedure of such advisory and working groups will be laid
327 down in the Internal Regulations.

328 The Congress can grant the title of Honorary President of the Association.

329 ***Elections***

330 Ballots shall be secret. In addition to their own personal vote, voting delegates may also be
331 allocated a maximum of one proxy vote per election, meaning that a maximum of two votes
332 per delegate can be cast. Abstentions, blank and invalid votes will not be counted among the
333 votes cast.

334 a) Election of the President and the Treasurer.

335 The President and the Treasurer are elected separately, by a majority of more than 50% of the
336 votes cast. If there are more than two candidates, and no one obtains more than 50% of the
337 votes cast, a second round takes place between the two candidates who obtained the most
338 votes.

339 b) Election of Vice Presidents.

340 The Vice Presidents are elected on a single ballot paper. Delegates can choose as many
341 candidates as they wish to up to the maximum number of vacancies to be filled.

342 The candidates with the most votes are elected in the order of the amount of votes. Only
343 candidates reaching the quorum defined as follows are elected: 1/the positions available, i.e.
344 that for 2 positions the quorum will $1/2 = 50\%$ of the ballots cast (and not of total votes), for 3
345 positions $1/3=33,33\%$ of the ballots cast, for 4 positions $1/4 =25\%$ of the ballots cast, etc.

346 In case of only one vacant position for a round of election, the principle of simple majority shall
347 be used, as is the case with the position of President and Treasurer.

348 Candidates failing to obtain the quorum in the first round can run in the second round where
349 there will be no quorum. Those obtaining the highest number of votes are elected until all
350 vacant mandates are filled.

351 If two or more candidates obtain the same number of votes for the last vacant mandate, an
352 extra round will be arranged between those candidates to determine who will fill the mandate.

353 In the event that a sitting Vice President or Treasurer runs for the position of President, an
354 additional mandate would become vacant should that person be elected President.

355 Candidates for election to the Bureau must be a member of, and be nominated by, their full or
356 associated member party of the Association who have fulfilled their membership obligations.
357 The candidate's Party leader, Secretary General or President, must send a signed letter of
358 nomination addressed to the Secretary General.

359 Article 28 – Vacancy before term

360 In the event that a vacancy occurs, a new member of the Bureau shall be elected at the next
361 Congress. The mandate of this Bureau member's term starts immediately at the Congress of
362 election and expires at the second ordinary Congress thereafter.

363 Article 29 – Dismissal

364 The mandate of the member of the Bureau automatically ends if the member joins a competing
365 party at national or European level.

366 A member of the Bureau may be dismissed on the grounds of, but not limited to, unethical
367 behaviour, conflict of interest, or non-participation in the Association's business.

368 At the request of at least seven full or associated members from at least five countries who
369 have fulfilled their membership obligations, the Bureau can be instructed to put the proposal
370 on the agenda of the next meeting of the Congress.

371 The Bureau member can exercise his/her right to be heard.

372 The Council shall decide on the dismissal of a member of the Bureau with a two-thirds majority
373 of the votes cast.

374 Article 30 – Notices and meetings

375 The Bureau shall meet at least two times a year.

376 Meetings of the Bureau shall be called by the President or by three members of the Bureau.

377 The meetings of the Bureau shall be chaired by the President or, in his/her absence, by another
378 member of the Bureau from a full member party, appointed by his/her peers.

379 The notice calling the meeting shall contain the place, date, time, agenda and, as the case
380 may be, working documents. It must be sent to all members of the Bureau by letter, facsimile
381 or e-mail or any other written means, at least eight calendar days prior to the date of the
382 meeting.

383 Article 31 – Proceedings, quorums and votes

384 Decisions shall be valid when at least half of the members of the Bureau are present. Where
385 this quorum is not reached, a new meeting of the Bureau shall be called no earlier than eight
386 calendar days after the first meeting. The second meeting of the Bureau shall be entitled to
387 take valid decisions irrespective of the number of members of the Bureau present.

388 The Bureau may only deliberate on the matters set out in the agenda unless all present
389 members of the Bureau decide unanimously to discuss other matters.

Each member of the Bureau will have one vote. A member of the Bureau may not grant a power-of-attorney to another member of the Bureau.

The decisions of the Bureau shall be taken with a simple majority of the votes cast. Abstentions shall not be taken into account, and, in the case of a written vote, blank and invalid votes shall not be counted in the votes cast. In the case of a tie vote, the Chair of the meeting shall have a casting vote.

Decisions may also be taken by circular letter, by conference call or videoconference. Decisions taken by conference call or videoconference are deemed to take place at the registered office of the Association and are deemed to come into force on the date of the meeting.

Article 32 – Minutes

Decisions taken by the Bureau shall be recorded in the minutes which are approved during the next meeting of the Bureau and signed by the Chair of the next approving meeting.

The minutes are kept in a register, at the disposal of the members of the Bureau at the registered office of the Association. A copy of the minutes is also sent out to all members of the Bureau.

CHAPTER VII – MANAGEMENT OF THE ASSOCIATION

Article 33 – The Secretary General

The Bureau shall delegate the daily management of the Association to the Secretary General. The Secretary General shall have the citizenship of an EU Member State and must be member of an EU member party of the Association.

The Bureau defines the scope and financial limitations of the daily management powers of the Secretary General.

The Secretary General shall be remunerated, according to a decision of the Bureau. Reasonable expenses supported by appropriate documentary evidence will also be reimbursed.

The Secretary General may delegate a part of his/her powers for particular or specific purposes to a third party, under his/her responsibility.

CHAPTER VIII - REPRESENTATION OF THE ASSOCIATION

Article 34

The Association shall be validly represented with respect to all acts, including court proceedings, by either the President or two members of the Bureau acting jointly, one of them must be either the President or the Treasurer, who shall not be obliged to offer proof to third parties of a prior decision of the Bureau.

The Secretary General shall individually represent the Association with respect to all acts of daily management, including court proceedings, and shall not be obliged to offer proof to third parties of a prior decision of the Bureau.

The Association is also validly represented by an attorney-in-fact, within the limits of his power-of-attorney.

428 **CHAPTER IX – AUDIT**

429 Article 35

430 The audit of the financial situation, the annual accounts, and the verification that the
431 transactions set out in the annual accounts comply with the Regulation and the Articles of
432 Association as well as the financial rules of the European Parliament, shall be entrusted to one
433 or several auditors appointed by the European Parliament.

434 **CHAPTER X – INTERNAL REGULATIONS**

435 Article 36

436 The Council shall adopt and may amend the Internal Regulations of the Association. The
437 Internal Regulations regulate the functioning of the Association and its bodies in general and
438 may not conflict with the Articles of Association.

439 **CHAPTER XI - FINANCIAL YEAR, BUDGET AND ANNUAL ACCOUNTS**

440 Article 37

441 The financial year shall coincide with the calendar year.

442 Article 38

443 The Bureau shall prepare the annual accounts at the end of each financial year. The Treasurer,
444 on behalf of the Bureau, shall also issue an annual report justifying the management of the
445 Association. This annual report shall include comments on the annual accounts for the purpose
446 of presenting the evolution of the Association and the Association's activities.

447 The Association in relation to bookkeeping, accounts, donations, privacy, and protection of
448 personal data respects Regulation (EC) 2018/1725 as well as Regulation (EC) 2016/679
449 regarding the protection of personal data.

450 The annual report and the auditor's report shall be presented to the Council for approval,
451 together with the draft annual accounts.

452 **CHAPTER XII – FINANCING**

453 Article 39

454 The Association shall secure its financing by:

- 455 (i) the payment of membership fees, as provided in Article 8;
- 456 (ii) resources granted by any authority and more in particular the European authorities;
- 457 (iii) the remuneration of any service rendered by the Association to its members or third
458 parties;
- 459 (iv) the payment of royalties for the use of intellectual property rights owned by the
460 Association;
- 461 (v) donations;
- 462 (vi) any other form of authorised financial resource.

In any event, the financing of the Association will have to strictly comply with the conditions and obligations relating to the funding of political parties as set out in Belgian Law and in Regulation 2025/2445.

The membership fees must be paid before the 1st of April of each year.

CHAPTER XIII – LIMITED LIABILITY

Article 40

The members of the Association, the members of the Bureau and the persons entrusted with the daily management of the Association will not be personally liable for the obligations of the Association.

The liability of members of the Bureau or persons entrusted with daily management is limited to the proper performance of their mandate.

CHAPTER XIV - AMENDMENTS TO THE ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION, DISSOLUTION AND LIQUIDATION OF THE ASSOCIATION

Article 41 – Amendments to the Articles of Association

Any proposal to amend these Articles of Association shall only be valid if proposed by the Bureau or one third of the full and associated members.

The proposed amendments to the Articles of Association must be attached to the notice calling the meeting of the Congress.

An attendance quorum of at least two-thirds of the full and associated members who have fulfilled their membership obligations is required for decisions regarding amendments to the Articles of Association.

Where this quorum is not reached, a new meeting of the Congress shall be called no earlier than 15 calendar days after the first meeting. The second meeting of the Congress shall be entitled to take valid decisions irrespective of the number of members present.

Decisions regarding amendments to the Articles of Association shall be taken with a majority of two-thirds of the votes cast.

Any decision relating to the amendments to the Articles of Association shall be submitted to the Authority and published in the Official Journal.

Article 42 – Dissolution and liquidation of the Association

The Association may be dissolved voluntarily by a decision of the Congress with a majority of four-fifths of the votes cast.

In the event that the Association is dissolved, the Congress shall decide by a simple majority of the votes cast on (i) the appointment, powers and remuneration of the liquidators, (ii) the methods and procedures for the liquidation of the Association and (iii) the destination to be given to the net assets of the Association.

The net assets of the Association will have to be allocated to a non-profit purpose.

499 **CHAPTER XV – FINAL PROVISIONS**

500 Article 43

501 These Articles of Association shall be written in French and English. The French version is the
502 official version of the Articles of Association and shall take precedence.

503 Article 44

504 Anything not provided for in these Articles of Association and in the Regulation will be
505 submitted to the laws of the Member State in which the Association is located.

506 Annex I: Logo

507 Annex II: Member parties list