

This is a freely translated, and thus unofficial version of the ESN Oulu statute. The original version overrides this translation in any case of unclarity or translation failures.

1. Name and location of the association

The name of the association is Erasmus Student Network Oulu ry and its domicile is in the city of Oulu.

2. Purpose of the association

2.1. The association is a non-profit, non-political organisation without connection to any religious or confessional groupings.

2.2. The association is a member of Erasmus Student Network umbrella organisations: Erasmus Student Network Finland ry and the Belgium based ESN AISBL (Association Internationale Sans But Lucratif). Association complies with the statutes of the umbrella organisations, unless they contradict the Finnish law or the statutes written in this document.

2.3. Association's aims comply with the aims of the umbrella organisations. The association operates in the interest of students in higher education institutions with the purpose of:

- improving the social and academic integration of international students in Oulu;
- working actively to advocate for the international students in Oulu
- improving the information flow about the opportunities of international student exchange;
- maintaining communication with the umbrella organisations;
- offering activities and opportunities of a social network to international and Finnish students;
- supporting co-operation between its members;
- motivating students to study abroad; and
- working towards promoting the concept of "internationalization at home".

In order to fulfill its aims, the association:

- can maintain a bank account and one or more debit cards
- can organise discussion and information events, meetings, training, instruction and guidance events as well as seminars;
- can maintain web pages;
- can practice information, research and publication activities;
- can make initiatives, give presentations and issue statements;
- can organise trips, parties and recreational activities for its members; and
- practice other similar activities in order to fulfill its aims.

2.4. The association may accept financial donations, grants and financial support. To support its operation the association can collect membership fees, organise recreational and cultural events subject to charge, as well as practice other income providing activity directly connected to fulfilling the aims of the association as described in the Finnish association act § 5. It can, once having obtained a license, also organise lotteries and jumble sales. The association may also own immaterial, movable and immovable property with respect to its operational needs.

3. Members

3.1. The number of members is not limited.

3.2. The association's board can accept private persons, who at the time of the application hold a student status and accept the aim and the statutes of the association, as members of the association. The board will accept or reject the application for membership.

3.3. A member has the right to revoke their membership by notifying the association board or president with a written announcement, or by notifying the association in a meeting to be noted in the meeting minutes.

3.4. The association board can expel a member if they:

- have neglected those duties they committed to when joining the association;
- have caused considerable harm to the association within the association or outside it; or
- no longer fulfill the membership requirements stated in the law or the association's statutes.

3.5. Members list

According to the Finnish association law, the association needs to have a members list, which includes the full, legal full name of the member and their address. The association's autumn general assembly decides how this information is collected for the upcoming year.

4. Membership fees

Association's autumn general assembly decides the amount of the yearly membership fee collected from the members of the association.

5. The board

5.1. Association's operations are managed by the board, which consists of the president and at least two and maximum nine other ordinary members as well as 0-3 deputy members. The current board shall nominate candidates for the board positions of the following mandate prior to the autumn general meeting. The final election of board members, including the president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, and other required board positions and deputies, shall take place at the autumn general meeting. Each position shall be voted on individually. A candidate shall be elected to a board position if they receive an absolute majority of the votes cast. Absolute majority is a majority with support from over half of the votes cast.

5.2. The board mandate is a calendar year. A calendar year is January 1st to December 31st.

5.2. In case of a resignation from the board, the association must act according to the guidelines given:

- The member has to notify the president of the association with a written announcement.
- The resignation is noted in the meeting minutes of a meeting following the resignation. following the resignation the board will open up an application to fill the vacancy. The application is open for 14 days.
- In the case of a resignation of the president of the association, the vice president will attend to the responsibilities of the president until the board elects a new president.

6. Association signature

The president, vice president, secretary or treasurer sign in the name of the association, two together.

7. Financial matters

7.1. The association's accounting period is a calendar year.

7.2. Association's spring general meeting decides on verifying the financial statement and discharging the board and other reliable parties from liability for the accounts.

7.3. The financial statement with needed documents and the board's annual report must be provided for the operations auditor no later than a month before the spring general meeting.

7.4. The association elects at least one operations auditor and one vice operations auditor in its autumn general meeting. The operations auditor must audit the association's finances and management regarding the calendar year after the autumn general meeting, in the extent required by the association's operations. The operations auditor must provide a written operations auditing report to the association's spring general meeting. The operations auditor must give their written statement to the board no later than two weeks before the spring general meeting.

The vice operations auditor supports the auditing process throughout the mandate by assisting with support as needed. If the operations auditor is unable to complete their duties, the vice operations auditor shall assume full responsibility as operations auditor, following the same obligations and deadlines. The board must be informed without delay, and the vice auditor must confirm their acceptance of this role in writing. If neither auditor is able to complete the responsibilities, the board must call an extraordinary meeting to elect a replacement.

8. Association's meetings

8.1. The association will organise two **statutory meetings** yearly: the Spring General Meeting, to be held before the end of May, as well as the Autumn General Meeting, to be held before

18th of December. In case the association is unable to hold these meetings by the given time limit, due to circumstances beyond the control of the association, the meetings will be held at the earliest opportunity.

Additional meetings will be held, when the association board so decides, when the board sees it to be necessary, or when at least one tenth (1/10) of the association's members so notifies the board in writing for a specific issue. The meeting has to be held within 30 days of the notice given to the board.

8.2. The association organises **open association meetings** on a regular basis to support the association's everyday operations and decision-making. These meetings shall be held approximately every two weeks, and at minimum once every calendar month, excluding the association's winter and summer holiday periods. The purpose of these meetings is to enable open communication, coordinate ongoing activities, and make decisions related to the day-to-day functioning of the association. All members of the association have the right to attend and participate in these meetings.

8.3. The board can decide if it is possible to participate in the association meeting via distance participation using telecommunication connection or other technical devices. Distance participation allows a member to speak and to vote. Voting is only allowed for those present or by delegation. Each member who is part of the membership registry has the right to vote in the association meetings. A member can delegate their vote to another member with a written mandate, that will be presented to the board at the latest before the beginning of the meeting. A member may not hold more than one delegated vote.

8.4. The decisions of an association meeting are reached with an absolute majority of votes. Votes given to any other than the given options are counted as abstain. Abstain counts as a rival stand. If abstain gets absolute majority, it means voters did not accept the options given and new options must be given until the results of the voting do not result in majority abstain vote. In case of a tie, the meetings chairman's vote is decisive; in personal elections however a lot is drawn.

8.5. If abstain votes gain the majority in personal elections, new application period must be opened. Personal elections are always done by secret voting and there must always be a vote when electing persons. In personal elections there must always be an option to not accept any of the candidates. Personal election results are reached with absolute majority. Candidates cannot vote. If candidates for board are interviewed, candidates for the same position are not allowed to interview or question each other.

9. Calling of the association's meetings

The board of the association must convene the meetings of the association no later than on the seventh (7.) day before the meeting by announcing the meeting through the current main communication channel.

10. Statutory meetings

10.1. At the Autumn General Meeting of the association, the following issues are treated:

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Election of the chair of the meeting, secretary, two scrutinizers and two ballot counters if needed;
3. Verifying the legality and quorum of the meeting;
4. Approving the agenda for the meeting;
5. Verifying the action plan, revenue and expenditure estimates, internal regulations as well as the amount of the joining fee and the membership fee for the next calendar year
6. Election of the president and other members of the board
7. Election of an operations auditor and a vice operations auditor
8. Treating any other matters announced in the meeting call

10.2. At the Spring General Meeting of the association, the following issues are treated:

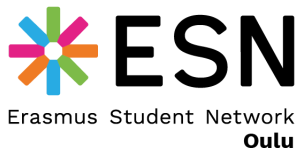
1. Opening of the meeting;
2. Election of the chair of the meeting, secretary, two scrutinizers and two ballot counters if needed;
3. Verifying the legality and quorum of the meeting;
4. Approving the agenda for the meeting;
5. Presenting the financial statements, annual report and the statement of the operations auditor
6. Deciding over the approval of the financial statement and release of the board and other accountable persons of liability
7. Treating any other matters announced in the meeting call

10.3. If a member of the association wants a matter treated in the association's spring or autumn general meeting, they have to inform the board about it in written form early enough so it can be included in the meeting call.

11. Changing the statutes and dissolution of the association

11.1. Decision of changing the statute must be made in the associations meeting with a majority of at least three fourths (3/4) of the votes cast in favour of the change. The matter of changing the statute or dissolution of the association must be announced in the meeting call.

11.2. If the association decides to dissolve or is disbanded, its assets will be donated to and divided equally between the Student Union of the University of Oulu and the Student Union of the Oulu University of Applied Sciences to be used to promote activities in accordance with the association's aims.



Translated by Kaisa Tervahauta in 2017, revised by Pinja Savaloja in 2024, revised by Zilun Llu (Killiana) in 2025.