

*This is a freely translated and thus unofficial version of the ESN Oulu statute.
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ASSOCIATION STATUTE

Name: Erasmus Student Network Oulu ry
 Domicile: Oulu
 Address: Erkki Koiso-Kanttilankatu 1 / Keskusaula
 90570 Oulu
 Registry number: 212.067
 Entry into the register of associations: 20.02.2014
 Data updated: 28.02.2017 16:34

1 § NAME AND PLACE

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

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

The association is a member of Erasmus Student Network Finland ry and via this organisation also a member of the Belgium based ESN AISBL (later referred to as umbrella organisations).

The association works under the guidance and working principles of its umbrella organizations, unless these conflict with the Finnish law or this statute.

2 § AIM AND FORMS OF ACTIVITY

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;
- 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 fulfil 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 a webpage;
- can practice information, research and publication activities;
- can make initiatives, give presentations and issue statements;
- can organise trips, parties and recreational activities for members; and
- practice other similar activities in order to fulfil its aims.

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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 obtaining a licence, also organise lotteries and jumble sales.

The association may also own immaterial, movable and immovable property with respect to its operational needs.

3 § MEMBERSHIP ACCEPTANCE

The association's board can accept a private person as a member of the association once the person has applied for membership of the association and accepts the aim and the statute of the association.

4 § RESIGNATION AND EXPULSION OF A MEMBER

A member has the right to resign membership of the association by providing a written notification about his/her intent to the board of the association or its president, or by notifying about the resignation in the associations meeting, where the resignation shall be recorded on the meeting minutes.

The board of the association can expel a member of the association, if the member

- has neglected those duties he/she committed to when joining the association;
- has caused considerable harm to the association within the association or outside it;

or

- no longer fulfils the membership requirements stated in the law or the associations statute.

The board of the association can consider a member resigned once he/she has failed to pay the membership fee within two sequential calendar years.

5 § MEMBERSHIP FEES

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

6 § ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

The association organises two statutory meetings every year: the spring general meeting, to be held before the end of April, as well as the autumn general meeting, to be held before 15th of December.

An additional meeting will be held when the association meeting so decides or when the board sees need for it or when at least one tenth (1/10) of the members entitled to vote require it from the board in writing in order to resolve a specific issue. The meeting shall be arranged within 30 days of the board receiving the request.

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 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 on the association's mailing list.

The board can decide if it is possible to participate in the association meeting via distance participation using post, telecommunication connection or with other technical devices. Distance participation allows a member to speak, but not vote. Voting is only allowed for those present or by delegation.

Every member who has paid the membership fee is entitled to vote in the associations meetings. A member may delegate their vote to another member with a written notification to the board before the opening of the meeting. A member may not hold more than one delegated vote.

The decisions of an association meeting are reached with an absolute majority of votes. Absolute majority is a majority with support from over half of the votes cast. 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 we can get a voting result where abstain does not win. In case of a tie, the meetings chairman's vote is decisive; in person elections however a lot is drawn.

Example of vote counting when 20 members are voting: an option/candidate must get 11 votes in order to reach absolute majority and win. In the case where abstains win, the vote is conducted again and in case of person elections the call for candidates must be opened again.

Person elections are always done by secret voting and there must always be a vote when electing persons. In person elections there must always be an option to not accept any of the candidates. Person 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.

7 § STATUTORY MEETINGS

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

At the autumn general meeting of the association, the following issues are treated:

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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

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.

8 § THE BOARD

Associations 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 elected in the autumn general meeting.

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

The association board elects from among its members a vice president, a secretary and a treasurer for the association. The board will appoint other required clerical staff from among or outside its members.

The board meets on the call of the president, or the vice president if the president is inhabitant, when they see need for it or when at least half of the board members require it.

The board has a quorum when at least half of the board members are present, association's president or vice president included. Polls are settled with a simple majority of votes. Simple majority is a majority in which the highest number of votes cast for any one candidate, issue, or item exceeds the second-highest number, while not constituting an absolute majority. Votes given to any other than the given options are counted as abstain. Abstain counts as a rival stand. In case of a tie, the president's vote is decisive; in elections, however, a lot is drawn.

The board can decide if it is possible to participate in the board meeting via distance participation using post, telecommunication connection or with other technical devices. Distance participation allows a member to speak, but not vote. Voting is only allowed for those present.

The board decides about cooperation agreements.

9 § ASSOCIATION SIGNATURE

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

10 § FINANCES AND OPERATIONS AUDITING

Associations accounting period is a calendar year. Association's spring general meeting decides on verifying the financial statement and discharging from liability for the accounts.

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.

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 associations operations. The operations auditor must provide a written operations auditing report to the associations spring general meeting.

The operations auditor must give their written statement to the board no later than two weeks before the spring general meeting.

11 § CHANGING THE STATUTE AND DISSOLUTION OF THE ASSOCIATION

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.

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.