

IPSA  **AISP**

INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION

CONSTITUTION



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Title I. Name and Legal Address

Article 1

There is hereby established, in accordance with action taken by the International Political Science Conference, held in Paris from the 12th to the 16th of September, 1949, an association which will take the name of "International Political Science Association" (hereafter referred to as the "Association").

Article 2

The Association is constituted as an association with scientific objectives, in conformity with the provisions of the decree-law of the French Republic of 12 April 1939, amending the law of 1 July 1901.

Article 3

The Association is legally registered in the city of Paris. The Secretariat is established at the location of the Executive Director.

Article 4

The Council shall have the right to change the location of the legal address of the Association. Prior to the first session of the Council this right may be exercised by the Executive Committee.

Title II. Objectives

Article 5

The general purpose of the Association shall be to promote the advancement of political science throughout the world, by such means as:

- a) encouraging the establishment and development of political science associations;
- b) facilitating the spread of information about developments in political science;
- c) organising world congresses and round table discussions and providing other opportunities for personal contacts among political scientists;
- d) publishing books and journals and providing a newsletter to members;
- e) promoting internationally planned research;
- f) working towards ensuring gender and diversity balance in all its actions and encouraging its collective members to aspire to the same high standards of achieving gender and diversity balance in their actions.

Title III. Membership

Article 6

The Association shall be composed of three classes of members: collective, individual, and institutional.

Article 7

Collective members shall consist of national (and regional) associations by the Executive Committee as being representative of political science in their respective countries (or regions).

Article 8

There shall normally be only one collective member from a country, but if, in any country, two or more eligible groups are candidates for collective membership, the Executive Committee, at its discretion, may seek the establishment of a joint committee to which collective membership may be granted, or it may admit one or more of the groups as collective members.

Article 9

Individual membership may be granted by the Executive Committee to persons suitably qualified by their professional activity or general interest in political science. Individual members may, but need not, belong to associations which are collective members.

Article 10

Institutional membership may be granted by the Executive Committee to international or national, associations, organisations, societies, or institutions pursuing objectives compatible with those of the Association in related fields of activity. An institutional member may, at its own request, be invited to be represented without vote at the meetings of the Council.

Title IV. The Council

Article 11

The Council shall be composed of two classes of members:

A) Representatives designated by the collective members of the association in such a number as may be determined by the Executive Committee, provided that no collective member shall be entitled to more than three representatives on the Council; in case there should be two or more collective members from a country, the total number of representatives of such collective members on the Council shall not exceed three. Each collective member shall be entitled to designate alternates to represent it at any meeting of the Council.

B) Individual members proposed by the president and ratified by the Executive Committee. The individual members, whose total number may not

exceed 25% of the number of representatives of collective members, are selected from the following categories:

- a) individual and institutional members of the IPSA from countries or regions where there is no collective member;
- b) chairpersons and secretaries of IPSA research committees and study groups or their representatives;
- c) boards of editors of IPSA official publications.

The members of national associations which are more than two years in arrears with their fees are ineligible to sit on the Council unless a successful appeal is made to the Executive Committee.

Article 12

The Council shall normally meet in regular session once every two years at such time and place as may be designated by the Executive Committee.

Article 13

Half the members of the Council constitutes a quorum.

Article 14

A special session of the Council shall be convened by the Executive Director upon request of two thirds of the collective members of the Association. The Executive Director shall give reasonable notice of the date, place and object of any special session.

Article 15

The Council shall determine the policy of the Association, approve the accounts, and review the financial prospects of the Association for the succeeding two years.

Article 16

Each member of the Council shall have one vote.

Article 17

The Council shall elect, in its first regular session, the President and the President-Elect of the Association. In the following regular sessions, it will normally elect only the President-Elect unless the President-Elect has resigned or died, in which case it will elect both a President and a President-Elect. The President shall hold office until the next regular session of the Council at the close of which the President-Elect shall become the President. Should the President die, or resign, the President-Elect will become the President and complete the term of incumbent and then serve his/her own term.

The Executive Committee nominates a candidate or candidates for the office of the president and/or the president-elect. Other candidates may be proposed during the Council meeting.

The President, elected according to the procedure defined in paragraph 1 of this article:

- Constitutes the link between the Council, the Executive Committee and the Secretariat,
- Presides over the association and serves as its global representative;
- Oversees the governance and operations of the Association;
- Signs all legally binding documents and contracts but in specific instances or areas, may delegate this authority to another elected EC member or the Executive Director;
- Decides on the location and the scheduling of the meetings of the Executive Committee and, in coordination with the Executive Director, prepares the agenda of the meetings and chairs them;
- Nominates candidates to the Executive Committee for appointment to the following positions:
 - Members of the permanent committees of the Executive Committee;
 - World Congress Program Chairs;
 - On the basis of previously conducted search process the Executive Director;
 - Summer School Coordinator, IPSA Journals editors;
 - Members of the Presidential Search Committee and the Bid Committee;
 - Vice Presidents in addition to President-elect;
 - Other positions as may be established by the Council and the Executive Committee.
- May create within the Executive Committee new positions, portfolios and ad hoc Committees in order to address short-term and defined tasks.

Article 18

Three months before the opening of each regular session of the Council, the Executive Director shall communicate to each member of the Council the date, place, and provisional agenda of the session.

The provisional agenda shall include:

- a) the report of the Executive Director on the work of the Association since the last session of the Council;
- b) the accounts of the Association for the preceding two years;

- c) a statement of the financial prospects of the Association for the succeeding two years;
- d) items proposed by the Executive Committee;
- e) items proposed by any collective member;
- f) election of the President and/or the President-Elect of the Association;
- g) election of the Executive Committee for the succeeding two years.

Article 19

The Council, subject to the provisions of article 16, may adopt its own rules of procedure.

Title V. The Executive Committee

Article 20

The Executive Committee shall consist of not less than twelve, nor more than nineteen members, or alternate members; the President and the President-Elect shall be counted as part of this maximum. The Executive Committee shall be elected by the Council at each regular session. There shall normally be only one representative of a collective member of the Association on the committee and in any case no more than two representatives.

- a) The retiring President and the President-Elect are both ex officio members of the Executive Committee with voting rights. The retiring President shall remain on the Executive Committee with voting right for two years following his/her retirement.
- b) Editors of the Association's official publications will normally attend the meetings of the Executive Committee without voting rights.
- c) Prior to or during the meeting of the Executive Committee, the president or any elected member of the Executive Committee may call for an in-camera session to which only elected members may attend. If not already on the agenda, the in-camera session is added to the agenda of the Executive Committee. The President may add appropriate records of the in-camera session to the minutes of the EC meeting.

Article 21

Each member of the Executive Committee shall have one vote.

Article 22

The Executive Committee shall hold its first meeting immediately following the close of the session of the Council at which the committee was elected. In addition to the President-Elect who shall serve as First Vice-President, it shall then elect one or several of its members to serve as Vice-

Presidents. The Executive Committee shall regularly meet twice a year. Special meetings may be convened when needed, upon the request of the President or of a majority of the membership of the committee.

Article 23

If an elected member fails to attend more than one regular meeting of the Executive Committee during the two-year term of office, irrespective of the reasons for not attending, his/her committee membership ends.

Article 24

In addition to exercising those powers and duties specified elsewhere in this Constitution, the Executive Committee shall:

- a) execute the decisions of the Council;
- b) exercise general control over the administration of the Association;
- c) be responsible for the development of the program and activities of the Association between sessions of the Council;
- d) appoint the Executive Director upon the proposition of a nomination committee selected by the Executive Committee. The Executive Director is normally expected to serve for eight years subject to his or her appointment being reviewed after four years. He or she may be reappointed for an additional four years;
- e) establish such standing or temporary committees of the Association as may seem desirable;
- f) accept and expend moneys on behalf of the Association;
- g) submit reports as necessary to members of the Council and invite and consider their comments thereon;
- h) establish, subject to general directives adopted by the Council, the annual budget of the Association;
- i) ratify the appointment of the programme chair upon nomination by the President.

Article 25

The Executive Committee may establish its own rules and regulations and may delegate authority to act on its behalf to the President or the member acting for him or her, to the Executive Director, or to sub-committees of its members.

Article 26

The Executive Director, with approval of the President, may appoint such staff as may be required and determines their salaries. The Executive Director is authorised to handle the

accounts of the Association. The Executive Director shall, at the end of his or her appointment hand over to his or her successor the audited accounts and assets of the Association.

Title VI. Financial Resources

Article 27

The financial resources of the Association shall include:

- a) annual dues to be contributed by collective members in accordance with such scale as may be determined by the Executive Committee prior to the first session of the Council, and by the Council thereafter;
- b) annual dues payable by individual and institutional members, the amount which shall be determined by the Executive Committee, subject to any decision by the Council;
- c) proceeds from the sale of publications of the Association, after all expenses contracted have been met; and
- d) contributions and grants of public institutions and fees for special services the conditions of which are approved by the Executive Committee subject to any decision by the Council, after all expenses contracted have been met.

Article 28

The Executive Director of the Association shall be responsible for supervising:

- a) the receipt, custody, and disbursement of moneys on behalf of the Association;
- b) the archives of the Association;
- c) the publication of the Association's newsletter.

Article 29

The Council reviews and approves, at each of its regular sessions, a financial report prepared by chartered accountants. The report covers the period between Council meetings.

Article 30

Members ceasing to belong to the Association shall have no claim upon its assets.

Title VII. Dissolution

Article 31

The dissolution of the Association may be declared by the Council at any time provided two thirds of the members of the Council concur.

Article 32

In the event of dissolution, the funds constituting the net assets of the Association shall be transferred by the Council to an international organization or institution with objectives similar to those of the Association or shall be assigned to uses considered as corresponding to its objectives.

Title VIII. Emergency situations

In the event that it is impossible to hold a scheduled election for President-Elect and Executive Committee at the World Congress as per standard procedure, the incumbent President and Executive Committee will continue to serve until such time when it is possible to hold the election at the World Congress. This decision will be voted on by the Executive Committee and submitted to the acting Council for affirmation, both by secret vote.

Title IX Amendments

Article 33

This Constitution may be amended by a two third majority of the members of the Council present at any meeting, provided that the members present constitute at least half of the total membership of the Council.

As amended at the Council meetings held in Stockholm, 19-26 August 1955; in Rome, 15-19 September 1958; in Geneva, 21-25 September 1964; in Munich, 31 August - 5 September 1970; in Moscow, 12-18 August 1979; in Rio de Janeiro, 9-14 August 1982; in Buenos Aires, July 21-25, 1991; in Seoul, 17-21 August 1997, in Madrid, 8-12 July 2012, in Brisbane, 21-25 July 2018 and virtual meeting 2 July 2021.