

Statute of the Association „Zugvögel, interkultureller Süd-Nord-Austausch“ (Migrant birds, intercultural South-North-Exchange)

§ 1 Name, Chair, Registration, Accounting year

- (1) The Association is called Zugvögel, interkultureller Süd-Nord-Austausch.
- (2) It is based in Berlin.
- (3) The Association will be registered in the trial court. It will then have the codicil „e.V.“, Zugvögel, interkultureller Süd-Nord-Austausch e.V. (e.V.= eingetragener Verein: registered Association)
- (4) Accounting year is the calendar year.

§ 2 Purpose of the Association

- (1) The Association pursues exclusively charitable purposes as defined by §§ 51ff. section „Steuerbegünstigte Zwecke“ der Abgabenordnung (AO).
- (2) Purpose of the Association is international understanding.
- (3) This purpose is achieved by a creation of a diverse intercultural exchange between countries of Global South and Global North. Structural racism can be countered by promoting respect and tolerance. The Association seeks to inform about global injustice and discrimination. It seeks to strengthen awareness and critical engagement with future development issues and to establish the understanding of global interactions to inspire society of the idea of global interaction.

The diverse intercultural exchange is created by the realisation of a volunteer programme for people of the Global South. The volunteers live for 6 to 18 months in Germany and attend a volunteers programme in a non-profit organization.

- (4) The Association is politically and denominationally neutral. It represents a principle of religious and ideological tolerance and will not tolerate racist and xenophobic tendencies.

§ 3 Selflessness

The Association runs altruistically and doesn't pursue it's own economic purposes.

§ 4 Funds

- (1) Funds may only be used for statutory purposes.
- (2) Members of the Association will not receive any benefits of it's funds. Volunteers may substitute proven expenses.
- (3) No person, institution, organization or group will benefit from expenses or services which are not for the purpose of Association or by disproportionally high expenses.

§ 5 Membership

(1) Membership of the Association is open to any natural or legal person who supports its goal and legalises its statutes.

(2) There is a distinction between active and supporting members. Every member is free to choose the type of its membership. The type of membership must be shown to the board.

(a) Active membership is open to any person who wants to support the work of the Association actively and with his/her own capacities. Active members are entitled to vote at the General Assembly.

(b) Supporting membership is open to any person who wishes to promote the efforts of the Association financially without necessarily participating in its work. Supporting members will be informed regularly about the activities of the Association. They are not entitled to vote at the General Assembly.

(3) Active and supporting membership is acquired by a membership agreement and acceptance by the board. A refusal of membership by the board has to be reasonable and justified. The applicant may complain in written form against the refusal of the board within one month after the refusal. The following Annual General Assembly decides about the complaint.

(4) If a person stands out by remarkable engagement for the Association, the General Assembly can title him/her as an honorary member.

(5) The membership is terminated by resignation, expulsion or death.

(6) The resignation of a member or the transfer between active and supporting membership is possible at anytime by a written notice to the board. The payment obligation of arrears will not be abolished by the cancellation. The board may deposit contributions in arrears partially or completely.

(7) If a member fails to pay unpaid arrears in spite of a second reminder, they can be excluded by the board with immediate effect. A new application for membership is possible.

(8) If a member has grossly violated against the goals and interests of the Association he/she can be expelled from the Association by the General Assembly with immediate effect. Before a decision of this kind, the member has the opportunity to justify or respond to reproaches. Any written statement of the person concerned is to be read at the meeting.

(9) The Association's property has to be returned after the termination of membership.

§ 6 Fees

(1) The members pay contributions in accordance with a resolution of the General Assembly. The contribution amount is determined by the General Assembly with two-thirds majority.

(2) The payment of contributions is due on the 15th February of the current fiscal year.

(3) The board may abate the contribution fees of an active member for one year after founded request.

§ 7 Elements of the assembly

Elements of the assembly are

- (a) General Assembly,
- (b) local groups,
- (c) the body,
- (d) delegates of the partner countries,

- (e) the cash auditor,
- (f) the communication committee.

§ 8 General Assembly

- (1) The General Assembly consists of all active and supporting members and honorary members. Supporting members have no voting rights.
- (2) An ordinary general meeting is convened at least once a year.
- (3) An extraordinary general meeting is convened if it is for the Association's interest or if it is requested in writing, stating the purpose and reasons, by at least one fifth of the members.
- (4) The convention of the General Assembly is at least five weeks in prior and in writing, also announcing the agenda. The invitation letter is sent to the latest official address of a member.
- (5) Active members who cannot appear to the General Assembly have to announce this at least three weeks before. If more than two thirds of the active members cancel their participation of the General Assembly, a new date will be scheduled.
- (6) Motions for the agenda have to be notified in writing to the board at least three days before the General Meeting. Motions which are proposed afterwards will only be discussed after a simple majority decision of the General Assembly.
- (7) The General Assembly is opened by the board and led by an elected member of the Association.
- (8) Every statutory convened General Assembly has a quorum regardless of the number of attending members. Every active member has one vote. The right to vote is not transferable. Presence is required in order to vote.
- (9) Unless the statute provides otherwise, the General Assembly shall take its decisions by simple majority. Pending results are considered as rejected.
- (10) Voting is held by hand vote. If at least one active member desires so, the vote will be held by secret ballot.
- (11) Elections are held by secret ballot. The candidate who receives the most votes is elected. Attendance is not required to get elected.
- (12) The General Assembly nominates a secretary, and if necessary a returning officer. The secretary has to take minutes at the meeting. It should contain the following: location and time of the meeting, the name of the head of the General Assembly and the Secretary, the number of attending members, the agenda, the decisions taken by individual election results and the method of voting. It also should provide information about the course of the discussion. If the statute is changed it has to be specified. The Returning Officer is responsible for the supervision and performance of any election. He/she may not be a member of the Board and not up for election.
- (13) The General Assembly is the main decision making body. For approval the annual report and financial statements and the discharge of the Board will be presented in writing to the General Assembly. The General Assembly decides in particular:
 - 1 (a) the election and dismissal of directors,
 - 2 (b) the election and dismissal of the cash auditor,
 - 3 (c) the introduction of new offices and three bodies of the Association,
 - 4 (d) the functions of the Association,
 - 5 (e) the enacting of the annual plan,
 - 6 (f) the discharge of the Board,
 - 7 (g) participation in companies or membership in other organizations,

- 8 (h) the taking of loans,
- 9 (i) the determination of membership fees,
- 10 (j) Amendments of the statute,
- 11 (k) the dissolution of the Association,
- 12 (l) the decision on the appointment and dismissal of employees.

§9 Local Groups

Local groups are active members of regional working groups. The local groups are the cornerstone of the permanent Association work. The success of the club is based on their creativity and commitment. They are generally independent to plan and carry out any actions and activities which promote the Association's purpose. The local groups are committed to transparent reporting to the Association. Each local group elects a representative to the Communications Committee.

§10 The Board

- (1) The Association is managed by the Board. It represents the Association in and out of court.
- (2) The Board consists of six persons who are responsible for their respective duties:
 - (a) two persons for the organization of voluntary stay,
 - (b) one person for internal communication,
 - (c) one person for external communication,
 - (d) a cash auditor,
 - (e) one person for responsible for the administration of members.
- (3) The Board is elected by the General Assembly for a period of one year. Re-election is possible. Only active members may become members of the Board. The Board remains in office until a new board is elected. Upon termination of membership in the Association, the office as a Board member ends as well.
- (4) For mandatory representation a subscription of a Board member is needed. Before signing a document the opinion of all Board members is to be obtained.
- (5) The task of the Board is to implement the resolutions of the General Assembly in their respective duties.
- (6) Moreover, the Board has the following tasks:
 - (a) management of the Association,
 - (b) review and coordination of all operations of the ongoing activities within the Association,
 - (c) the preparation of the annual report,
 - (d) the convening of general meetings,
 - (e) the preparation of the agenda for meetings of the members.

§11 Delegates of the partner countries

- (1) The Delegates of the partner countries are responsible for the communication and for maintaining contact with potential and actual sending countries.
- (2) They are elected by the General Assembly for a period of one year. Re-election is possible.

§12 Cash Auditing

(1) The General Assembly elects an cash auditor for the period of one year. This may not be a member of the Board. Re-election is possible.

(2) His_ her task is to verify the proper management of the association's assets and the financial activities of the Board. Furthermore, he_ she has to make a report to the General Assembly in writing.

§13 The communication committee

(1) The Communications Committee serves with networking, coordination and news coverage within the club.

(2) It shall be composed of one ambassador of each local group, the members of the Board and the Regional Representatives.

§14 Program Guidelines

(1) The admission of the new sending countries is decided in the General Assembly by a two thirds majority.

(2) The General Assembly decides on the country-specific distribution of donations.

(3) Sending countries shall select and prepare the volunteer program with greatest possible autonomy.

(4) Other possible criteria are discussed and approved in the General Assembly.

§ 15 Amendment of purpose and statute

(1) To change the association's purpose and other amendments a three quarters majority of the attending members is required. Changes to the statutes can only be voted in the General Assembly, if it was pointed to this agenda item already in the invitation to the meeting and if to the invitation both - the existing and the proposed new constitution text - had been added. The proposed amendment must be quoted in full in the General Assembly.

(2) The Board may make amendments that are required for formal reasons by regulatory, judicial or financial authorities, on its own. These amendments must be notified immediately in writing to all club members.

§ 16 Certification of decisions

Die in Vorstandssitzungen und in Mitgliederversammlungen gefassten Beschlüsse sind schriftlich niederzulegen und vom Vorstand zu unterzeichnen.

§ 17 Dissolution of the association and binding capacity

(1) To dissolve the association, a majority of three quarters of the General Assembly attending members is required. The decision may be taken only after timely notice in the invitation to the meeting.

(2) Upon the dissolution of the association or loss of tax-privileged purposes, the assets of the association fall to the Association "Color Esperanza. Peru Voluntarios ", 79108 Freiburg im Breisgau, which shall directly and exclusively use it for public welfare purposes (§§ 51 ff AO.)

§ 18 Administration

Email correspondence is equal to letter correspondence.

This statute was erected at the inaugural meeting on 8th January 2012 in Berlin.