

STATUTES
of
epiStoa e. V.

I. General

§1 Name, registered office, financial year

(1) The association ‘epiStoa e. V.’, founded on 30 September 2023, has its registered office in Hamburg and is to be entered in the register of associations of the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg.

(2) The financial year is the calendar year.

§2 Purpose, realisation

(1) The general purpose of the Association is the promotion of education and vocational training, the promotion of art and culture as well as the promotion of an international attitude, tolerance in all areas of tolerance in all areas of culture and international understanding.

(2) The purpose of the statutes is realised in particular by

- raising awareness of the roots of the history of European ideas in antiquity,
- strengthening the general awareness of the ancient roots of philosophy, law, languages and science,
- honouring European values (Article 2 of the Treaty on European Union) as a milestone,
- emphasising the importance of the ancient languages of Ancient Greek and Latin for the above-mentioned areas,
- strengthening the position of Ancient Greek and Latin in modern education systems,
- publications in the above-mentioned subject areas,
- the organisation of conferences, workshops and courses, also in co-operation with other institutions, for educational and international understanding purposes, especially with regard to the teaching and passing on of Ancient Greek and Latin and European values to younger generations,
- activities such as the organisation of divulgative scientific events, educational, linguistic and/or artistic and cultural projects at home and in other EU countries,
- the organisation of meetings, conferences, courses, also in co-operation with other institutions for educational and mutual international comprehension purposes.

(3) In addition to the realisation of the tax-privileged purposes, the activities of the association shall also contribute to the reputation of the European Union and the Federal Republic of Germany abroad.

(4) The association ‘epiStoa e. V.’ is politically, denominationally and ethnically neutral.

§3 Non-profit status

(1) The association pursues exclusively and directly charitable purposes within the meaning of the section ‘Tax-privileged purposes’ of the German Tax Code. The association is a non-profit organisation. It does not primarily pursue its own economic purposes.

(2) The Association’s funds may only be used for the purposes set out in these bylaws. The members shall not receive any benefits from the Association’s funds. No person may be favoured by expenses that are alien to the purpose of the association or by disproportionately high benefits.

(3) The activities mentioned in § 2 of these bylaws are always in the service of fellow human beings, especially younger generations.

§4 Duration

(1) The duration of the Association is unlimited.

II Membership

§5 Membership

(1) Membership is acquired by admission. The application for membership (declaration of admission) must be submitted in writing (online via the association’s website or by post).

In the case of minors, the declaration of consent of the legal representative is required.

(2) Domestic and foreign natural or legal persons can become members of the association.

(3) The Executive Board decides on the application for admission. Reasons must be given for the rejection of an application for membership. The person concerned has the right to appeal to the General Meeting, which then makes the final decision on the application.

The right to which the person is entitled is stated in the rejection.

(4) At the proposal of the Executive Board, the General Assembly may appoint members or members or other persons as honorary members if they have rendered outstanding services to the association.

(5) All admitted members have the right to vote. Honorary members have no voting rights.

§6 Rights and duties of the members

(1) The members of the Association shall pursue its objectives with commitment and competence.

(2) The members of the Association may participate in all activities of the Association.

(3) Members must pay a membership fee each year. The General Assembly decides the amount of the annual membership fee. Members up to the age of 28 years pay 25 %, spouses and partners 50 % of the fixed annual membership fee.

(4) The membership fee is payable in advance and is due on 15 January of each year. The membership fees are collected regularly via a SEPA direct debit mandate or transferred by standing order. The Executive Board can authorise a different method of payment upon request.

(5) Honorary members do not pay a membership fee.

§7 End of membership

(1) Membership ends upon death (in the case of legal entities, upon dissolution), voluntary resignation, expulsion by the Executive Board for non-payment of two consecutive membership fees, for serious reasons or by Executive Board resolution in the event of gross violation of the interests of the association. All membership rights are lost upon withdrawal from the association.

(2) Resignation notices must be sent exclusively to the Executive Board.

(3) Resignation must be declared to the association in writing and can only be made with a notice period of 6 months to the end of the year. The resignation of minors requires the signature of their legal representative.

(4) Resigning members shall have no claims against the Association for payment of the value of a share in the Association's assets.

III Organisation

§8 Organs

(1) The bodies of the Association are the General Assembly and the Executive Board.

§9 General Assembly of Members

(1) The General Assembly is the supreme and sole statutory body of the association. All members who have reached the age of 16 and have been members of the association for at least 2 months are entitled to vote.

(2) Every properly convened General Assembly constitutes a quorum. For amendments to § 2 of the bylaws, 50 % of the members must be present; for all other amendments to the bylaws, 33 % of the members must be present. Unless a different majority is required by law, a simple majority of those present shall decide, with the exception of amendments to the bylaws: These require a two-thirds majority of those present.

(3) The ordinary General Assembly (Annual General Assembly) takes place once a year. It is responsible in particular for

- approval of the minutes of the last General Assembly,
- acceptance of the annual report of the Executive Board,
- accepting the cash report for the previous financial year and the report of the auditors,
- the discharge of the Board of Directors,
- the discharge of the treasurer,
- determination of the annual membership fee,
- passing resolutions on motions and amendments to the bylaws,
- the election of the Board of Directors,
- the final decision on membership applications rejected by the Executive Board
- the dissolution of the Association.

(4) Members must be invited to the General Assembly by the Executive Board at least 30 days before the meeting, whereby the agenda must be stated. In principle, general meetings can be held on site, virtually or hybrid. In individual cases, the Executive Board decides this by simple majority. If a hybrid or virtual meeting is convened, the invitation must specify how members can exercise their rights by means of electronic communication. The invitation is published on the association's website in the members' area.

(5) Every member with voting rights has the right to submit motions to the General Assembly. Motions to amend the bylaws must be submitted to the Executive Board at least 20 days before the date of the General Assembly.

(6) The General Meeting shall decide whether a decision is to be made on the motions submitted in addition to the original agenda in accordance with paragraph 5. This decision must be recorded in the minutes.

(7) The right to vote may be exercised in person or by proxy, authorised by written authorisation. The authorisation can only be transferred to another member.

(8) Resolutions are passed by a show of hands or, at the request of a member, in writing and by secret ballot, unless another form of resolution is required by law. The resolutions of the General Meeting are binding for all members, including absent or represented members.

(9) Elections are held by secret ballot unless the General Assembly authorises open voting.

(10) The General Assembly of Members shall be chaired by the First Chairperson, in the in case of prevention the Second Chairperson or another other member of the Executive Board.

(11) The application for discharge of the Executive Board is submitted by the auditor.

(12) Minutes shall be taken of the resolutions of the General Assembly, which shall be signed by the chairman of the meeting and the keeper of the minutes.

§ 10 Extraordinary General Assembly

(1) If necessary, or at the request of at least 10% of the registered members, the chairperson shall convene an extraordinary general assembly in accordance with these bylaws to amend the bylaws, to dissolve the organisation or to discuss extraordinary events.

(2) The meeting shall be convened in the same way as the ordinary General Assembly. For resolutions and minutes shall be governed by the regulations that apply to the General Assembly.

§ 11 Board of Directors

(1) The Executive Board authorised to represent the company according to § 26 BGB (i.e., the German Civil Code) ("BGB Executive Board") consists of the following persons:

- 1st Chairperson,
- 2nd chairperson,
- Treasurer.

(2) Up to 4 further members may be elected to the extended Executive Board in addition to the members (e.g. permanent secretary).

(3) The Executive Board is elected by the General Assembly (§ 9 paragraph 3 of these statutes). The treasurer and the permanent secretary are elected for a term of 3 years, the other board members for 1 year. Board members are eligible for re-election. The Executive Board remains in office until a new election is held. If a member of the Executive Board

resigns during the term of office, the Executive Board elects a replacement member for the remainder of the term of office of the resigning Executive Board member.

(4) All members with voting rights are eligible for election to positions on the Executive Board if they have been members of the association for at least 6 months at the time of the General Assembly and have reached the age of 18.

(5) The Board of Directors meets at least once a year or at the request of a quarter of its members. The Board meeting is usually held in conjunction with the Annual General Assembly. The first chairperson issues invitations by electronic means, stating the agenda, at least seven days before the meeting. If all members of the Board of Directors agree, the invitation can also be sent up to one day before the meeting.

(6) All Board resolutions are passed by the extended Board. Resolutions are passed by a majority of votes; a tie vote is considered a rejection. The Board is quorate if at least 50 % of its members are present. The Executive Board appoints persons or committees to carry out certain tasks or committees and determines their rights and duties.

(7) The members of the BGB Executive Board are individually authorised to represent the association in and out of court.

(8) The tasks of the extended Executive Board are

- together with the respective interested members of the association: Planning, organisation and implementation of the association's activities,
- organising the General Assembly,
- implementation of the resolutions of the General Assembly,
- administration of the assets,
- admission of members.

(9) By resolution of the General Assembly, the Association may pay members of the Executive Board and holders of functions in accordance with § 3 No. 26 a EStG (German Income Tax Act)

(honorary office allowance) up to the amount stipulated therein.

IV. Final provisions

§ 12 Dissolution

(1) In the event of dissolution in accordance with § 9 and § 10 of these bylaws, one or more

liquidators shall be appointed.

(2) In the event of the dissolution or cancellation of the corporation or the discontinuation of tax-privileged purposes, the assets of the corporation shall be transferred to the Deutscher Altphilologenverband e.V. (Office: Institute for Classical Philology Humboldt University of Berlin, Unter den Linden 6, 10099 Berlin), which will use it directly and exclusively for charitable, benevolent or ecclesiastical purposes.

Signatures of founding members:

Prof. em. Dr. Dr. Detlev Schild (Erster Vorsitzender)

Prof. em. Dr. Michael Job (Zweiter Vorsitzender)

Dr. Felicitas Graap (Schatzmeisterin)

Prof. Dr. Riccardo Pozzo

Dr. Barbara Fink
Satzung epiStoa e. V.

Dr. Patrick-Olivier Rosselet

Andreas Drekiš