

STATUTES OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION

Registered association

Article 1

Name and purpose

1. The Association shall be called the "European Parliamentary Association". The Association shall provide a meeting place where Members of the European Parliament and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe can establish contact in a friendly atmosphere with a view to fostering human and practical relations.

2. The Association's premises shall also be available to working parties, political groups and national delegations for meetings or discussions.

3. The Association shall also provide an opportunity for meetings at a personal level with representatives from public life. Lectures, information evenings and cultural events shall provide regular opportunities for meetings.

4. The association also commits itself to cooperating with the European Parliament in activities or actions of European character which includes receiving visitors in the context of a financial support that is to be restated annually.

Article 2

Headquarters

The headquarters of the Association shall be at 76 allée de la Robertsau, Strasbourg.

Articles 21 et seq. of the local Code Civil and the present statutes shall apply to the Association, which shall be entered in the register of Associations.

The Association may set up branches in other places.

Article 3

Membership

(a) The following may become members of the Association:

Members of the European Parliament and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe.

Membership shall be terminated by resignation, expulsion or death. Decisions on expulsion shall be taken by the Committee. Appeals to the Members' Assembly shall be permissible.

Loss of a political mandate shall not automatically terminate membership.

(b) The mayor of the City shall be an ex officio member.

(c) Persons who subscribe to the aims of the Association but do not fall within the category of persons referred to in Article 3(a) may, with the agreement of the Committee, become corresponding members. By virtue of their positions, heads of foreign missions shall be "permanent guests" of the Member States of the European Community.

Article 4

Bodies

(a) The Members' Assembly

The Members' Assembly shall meet at least once a year. It shall be convened by written notice four weeks in advance by the Committee. Its duties shall be:

1. to inform members of the Association's tasks and activities,
2. to elect the Committee,

3. to approve the report on the accounts and grant a discharge to the Committee,
4. to determine the membership subscription,
5. to amend the statutes,
6. to dissolve the Association.

(b) The Committee

The Committee shall consist of:

- a chairman,
- one or more deputy chairmen and
- a treasurer,

who shall together constitute the Executive Committee.

The Committee may have up to 29 members, representing the political groups in the European Parliament and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe in proportion to their size. The Committee shall elect, from among its members and for a five-year period, the chairman and the members of the Executive Committee.

The first Committee elected by the constituent assembly shall be re-elected after two years. The Committee shall be elected by the Members' Assembly for a five-year period by a simple majority. The Committee shall conduct the day-to-day business of the Association, prepare the proceedings of the Members' Assembly and implement its decisions.

The executive, as defined by the law on Associations, shall be the chairman or, if he is unable to act, one of his deputies. He shall appoint the secretary or secretaries (and the Secretary-General). On a proposal from the Committee, the Executive Committee may confer honorary membership for special services.

(c) Auditor

The management is controlled by an external auditor chosen by the executive committee. He communicates his report to the committee, to two members designed by the assembly and to the assembly of members. If the association meets the criteria of nomination of an auditor, it will apply the clauses planned by the Law.

Article 5
Voting

1. Save as otherwise provided in the statutes, the Members' Assembly shall adopt its decisions by a simple majority of members present in person or represented.
2. Representation shall require a written proxy which may be granted only to a member. A member attending the meeting may hold no more than one proxy for an absent member.
3. Decisions on items pursuant to Article 4(a) may be taken only when they have been announced in the notice convening the meeting. In the case of amendments to the statutes, the proposed new wording shall be notified, indicating the proposer's name. The Members' Assembly may decide on a different wording provided that it keeps to the subject which the proposed amendment addresses.
4. Minutes shall be taken of the Members' Assembly. They shall record the decisions taken. They shall be signed by a member of the Committee.

Article 6
Membership subscription

The Association shall levy a subscription on its members and permanent guests, which shall be determined annually by the Members' Assembly.

Article 7
Dissolution

The Association may be dissolved only a Members' Assembly convened in accordance with the statutes. The decision shall require a majority of two-thirds of the votes cast when the proposed dissolution has been announced in the notice convening the meeting. In the event of dissolution, the Association's assets shall be transferred to the European Parliament or one of the European Communities' institutions and the premises shall revert to the City of Strasbourg.

Strasbourg, 6 July 1983 (8 signatures)

Kai-Uwe von HASSEL
Jame L. JANSSEN VAN RAAY
Alberto GHERGHO
Gérard JAQUET
C.D. GONTIKAS
Pierre PFLIMLIN
Heinrich AIGNER
Amédée TURNER