

Statutes of the Registered Association European Coalition of Cities Against Racism

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§ 1 Name, Registered, Financial Year

- (1) The Association is named "European Coalition of Cities Against Racism". The name shall be entered into the Register of Associations. After registration the suffix "e.V." [registered association] shall be added to its name.
- (2) The Association's registered office is in Potsdam.
- (3) The financial year is the calendar year.

§ 2 Purpose

The purpose of the Association is to:

- a) combat any form of racism and discrimination at a municipal level and thus contribute to the protection and promotion of human rights, respect for diversity in Europe, international mindedness, tolerance in all fields of culture and mutual understanding among peoples;
- b) support member cities in this task via the "Ten-Point-Plan of Action", which was adopted in Nuremberg on 10 December 2004, and assist them in setting priorities, optimising their strategies and reinforcing their co-operation;
- c) represent and promote the common interests of member cities towards the European Union, the Council of Europe and national governments in Europe;
- d) strengthen co-operation with institutions and organisations committed to fighting racism and discrimination, as well as with other European cities networks;
- e) raise awareness of the values of a just and solidarity-based society among the general public in Europe by means of events and information material, motivate them to decisively oppose racist or discriminatory opinions and behaviours.

§ 3 Non-Profit status

- (1) The Association shall exclusively and directly pursue non-profit and charitable purposes as defined by the section "Tax-Privileged Purposes" §§ 51-68 of the German fiscal code. The Association acts in a disinterested manner. It does not strive for profit and shall not primarily pursue its own economic interest.
- (2) The Association's funds shall be used only for purposes laid down in the statutes. Members shall not own shares of the profit and, in their capacity as members, they shall not receive any other financial allocation from the Association's funds.
- (3) No person shall benefit from disproportionately high payments or from expenditure that do not align with the Association's purpose.
Members do not own shares in the Association's assets.

§ 4 Membership

- (1) Membership of the Coalition can only be granted to cities and local governments in European countries with a democratically elected council that support the Association's purpose. No minimum number of inhabitants is required for membership. Membership of the Coalition shall also be open to UNESCO in Paris.
- (2) In order to apply, cities and local governments that meet the requirements listed in section 1 must send a letter to the Steering Committee comprising a membership application as well as the membership form. Membership is obtained as soon as the application for membership is approved by majority vote of the Steering Committee.
- (3) When joining the Coalition, each member undertakes to submit every second year a report to the Steering Committee on the measures taken for implementing the "Ten-Point-Plan of Action". The Steering Committee shall pass on all reports to the Scientific Secretariat. The Scientific Secretariat conducts an annual evaluation of the reports thus presented in order to assess the implementation status of the "Ten-Point-Plan of Action ". The Steering Committee shall issue an opinion on this evaluation. The evaluation by the Scientific Secretariat and the opinion of the Steering Committee shall be presented to the General Assembly for information and discussion.
- (4) Membership is terminated by resignation or exclusion from the association. Resignation letters shall be submitted by a competent representative.
- (5) Resignation may be effected at any time by written notice to the Steering Committee. The period of notice is 6 months.
- (6) Members whose behaviour grossly damages the interests of the Association can be excluded. The General Assembly decides on the expulsion of a member with a two-third majority vote of all votes cast. The Steering Committee may suspend membership until the General Assembly makes a decision.

§ 5 Membership Fee

All members shall pay an annual membership fee which is due on June 30st of the current financial year. The amount of the membership fee is determined by the General Assembly

upon proposal of the Steering Committee. The Steering Committee may release certain members from their obligation to pay on a case-by-case basis.

§ 6 Bodies

The Bodies of the association are:

- a) the General Assembly;
- b) the Steering Committee;
- c) the Executive Board.

§ 7 General Assembly

- (1) The ordinary General Assembly meets at least once a year. The Steering Committee shall convene the General Assembly in writing at least eight weeks in advance. The final agenda shall be sent out by the Office at the latest 4 weeks prior to the General Assembly. Member cities may suggest additional items on the agenda in writing at the latest 15 days prior to the General Assembly. The Steering Committee decides on the venue and the agenda of the General Assembly.
- (2) The General Assembly is exclusively competent in the following matters:
 - a) approval of the budget and of the annual accounts;
 - b) election of the Steering Committee members, except for permanent members;
 - c) formal approval of the actions of the Steering Committee;
 - d) amendments to the statutes;
 - e) dissolution of the association;
 - f) the annual work agenda;
 - g) receipt of the activity report presented by the Steering Committee;
 - h) exclusion of members of the association;
 - i) taking note of the evaluation by the Scientific Secretariat and of the opinion by the Steering Committee, both expressed as stipulated in § 4 section 3, and discussing those.
- (3) Each member has one vote.
- (4) The General Assembly has the quorum if all members were duly invited as stipulated in the statutes. Decisions are made by a simple majority vote of the members present. Amendments to the statutes require a three-quarter majority vote of the members present.
- (5) Scientific advisors as well as representatives from various organisations and institutions may attend the General Assembly as observers at the invitation of the Steering Committee. These observers are not entitled to vote.
- (6) The Steering Committee may convene extraordinary General Assembly at any time. Such General Assembly shall take place whenever the association's interests require this, or upon written request by one fifth of all members to the Steering Committee, mentioning the purpose of and reason for this General Assembly.

§ 8 Steering Committee

- (1) The Steering Committee comprises a maximum of 25 voting members and is composed by: one representative each from a maximum of 23 member cities, one representative of UNESCO (Paris) and one representative of the city hosting the Office.
- (2) The representatives of UNESCO and of the city hosting the Office are permanent members of the Steering Committee.
- (3) With the exception of the permanent members, all further members of the Steering Committee are elected by the General Assembly for four years. Re-election is permitted.
- (4) The Steering Committee shall elect a chairperson from among its members and a deputy chairperson from the city hosting the Office. The Steering Committee shall establish specific areas of focus for the ECCAR and may elect additional deputy chairpersons who are placed in charge of a specific focus area. They represent the association in and out of court. They constitute the legal representatives of the association within the meaning of § 26 BGB. Each of them holds the rights to represent the company individually.
Steering Committee members exercise their vote only in case of compliance with the payment of the fee, referring to the previous year for SC from January to June and to the current year for SC from July to December.
- (5) The Steering Committee may invite scientific advisors as well as representatives from various organisations and institutions to attend its meetings as observers. These observers have no voting right.
- (6) The Steering Committee has the following tasks:
 - a) deciding on the admission of cities as members of the Coalition;
 - b) suggesting the exclusion of member cities to the General Assembly;
 - c) representing and promoting the Coalition and its goals at a European, international and regional level;
 - d) convening and preparing General Assemblies and further conferences of the Coalition;
 - e) implementing decisions taken by the General Assembly;
 - f) preparing and facilitating medium and long term action programmes for the Coalition and introducing them to the General Assembly for decision-making;
 - g) preparing and discussing the budget and the annual accounts and presenting them to the General Assembly for decision;
 - h) forwarding the reports presented by members to the Steering Committee in accordance with § 4 section 3 above to the Scientific Secretariat for annual evaluation, and delivering an opinion upon these evaluations on an annual basis.
- (7) The Steering Committee can grant honorary membership in the Association to cities for special achievements.

§ 9 Office

- (1) The Office of the Coalition is based in Potsdam, as part of the city administration.
- (2) The Office has the following tasks:
 - a) acting as a point of contact for member cities and interested municipalities;
 - b) promoting communication among member cities and sharing of experiences and best practice examples for the implementation of the "Ten-Point-Plan of Action Against Racism";
 - c) doing PR work for the Coalition at a European, international and regional level;
 - d) supporting the national coalitions of cities against racism; and
 - e) organising Coalition activities, in particular the General Assembly and further conferences.

§ 10 Scientific Secretariat

- (1) The Coalition's Scientific Secretariat is based in the Social and Human Sciences Sector, Section Fight against Discrimination and Racism of UNESCO in Paris.
- (2) The Scientific Secretariat has the following tasks:
 - a) performing a yearly evaluation of the implementation of the "Ten-Point-Plan of Action Against Racism" on the basis of the reports presented by member cities according to § 4 section 3 above;
 - b) advising member cities on the implementation of the Plan of Action;
 - c) promoting co-operation with Inter-Governmental Organisations, Non-Governmental-Organisations, universities and other relevant bodies in order to provide research-based support to the implementation of the goals of the Coalition.

§ 11 Minutes

- (1) All decisions made by the General Assembly and by the Steering Committee shall be written down in the minutes, and these shall be signed by the chair person of the meeting, or jointly signed by one of the vice-presidents attending the meeting and by the keeper of the minutes. The minutes shall contain: a list of participants, the agenda, the results of any decisions and votes taken, if applicable with voting results, as well as all statements made explicitly for the records.
- (2) The Steering Committee is responsible for minutes being taken.

§ 12 Dissolution of the association

- (1) The association may be dissolved by the General Assembly with a three-quarter majority voting of all delegates present as provided in the statutes.
- (2) In the event that the association is dissolved or suspended or that its tax-privileged purposes no longer exists, the assets of the association shall be turned over to a

public legal entity or another tax-privileged corporation that pursues the purpose of promoting international mindedness, tolerance in all fields of culture and mutual

understanding among peoples, and that combats any form of racism and discrimination at a municipal level, thus contributing to the protection and promotion of human rights and respect for diversity in Europe.

§ 13 Commencement

The above statutes were adopted by the foundation assembly on November 10, 2007 in Graz, Austria. They are valid as amended and updated in the latest version of Mai 12, 2016.