

Statutes

§ 1 Name and Seat of the Association

- (1) The association bears the name United Hands for Refugees and is based in Hamburg.
- (2) United Hands for Refugees is to be entered in the register of associations and will then bear the suffix "e.V."

§ 2 Purpose of the Association

- (1) The association exclusively and directly pursues charitable and benevolent purposes within the meaning of the section "Tax-privileged purposes" of the German Tax Code.
- (2) The purpose of the association is to promote assistance for those persecuted on political, racial or religious grounds as well as refugees and to promote assistance for people who are discriminated against on the basis of their gender identity or gender orientation. Furthermore, the association aims to contribute to the promotion of international attitudes, tolerance in all areas of culture and the idea of international understanding.
- (3) The purpose of the statutes is realised in particular through the material and immaterial support of these people, e.g. through the distribution of donations in kind and food as well as financial emergency aid, the establishment and mediation of donation networks. The purpose of the statutes is also realised through awareness-raising and educational measures within the framework of, for example, specially offered educational projects, online and offline workshops, social media campaigns and school visits both nationally and internationally.

§ 3 Non-profit status of the association

- (1) The association is selflessly active; it does not primarily pursue its own economic purposes.
- (2) The funds of the association may only be used for the purposes set out in the Articles of Association. The members shall not receive any benefits from the funds of the Association in their capacity as members.
- (3) No person may be favoured by expenses that are alien to the purpose of the association or by disproportionately high remuneration.

§ 4 Membership

(1) Individual members

Membership may be acquired by natural persons and legal entities. Individual members have the usual rights and obligations of a member of the Association, unless otherwise provided for in these Statutes.

(2) Sustaining Members

The Executive Committee may admit sustaining members (natural persons or legal entities) upon application. Sustaining members do not have voting rights, but may participate in all events of the Association and have their say. Sustaining membership ends automatically at the beginning of the next financial year, provided that no contribution is made in the current financial year.

(3) Admission to the Association shall be applied for in writing to the Executive Committee. For minors, the application for membership must be submitted by their legal representatives.

The Executive Committee shall decide on the application for membership at its own discretion. Reasons must be given to the applicant if the application is rejected. If the application is rejected, the applicant shall have the right of appeal to the General Assembly of the Association. This meeting shall make the final decision.

(4) Membership ends through resignation, exclusion, death or dissolution of the legal entity.

(5) Resignation from the association is permitted at the end of each month with a notice period of one week. It must be declared in writing to the Executive Board.

(6)

a) Expulsion can only take place for important reasons. Important reasons are, in particular, behaviour detrimental to the aims of the association and the violation of statutory duties. The Executive Committee shall decide on the exclusion. The member has the right to appeal against the exclusion to the general meeting, which must be submitted in writing to the executive committee within one month. The General Assembly shall make the final decision within the framework of the Association.

b) Membership of a member in neo-fascist, radical right-wing or militant organisations is grounds for expulsion.

c) Members may be expelled if a member is more than six months in arrears with its subscriptions and, despite a single reminder, fails to pay the subscription debt without delay.

d) Upon termination of membership, the property of the Association shall be returned to the Association.

(7) Members shall not be liable for the Association's debts.

§ 5 Contributions

(1) No contributions shall be levied from ordinary members. Supporting members shall pay a monthly fee. The General Assembly may determine the introduction of contributions for ordinary members. The amount and due date of the fees shall also be determined by the General Assembly.

§ 6 Organs of the Association

(1) The organs of the association are the board of directors and the general meeting.

§ 7 Board of Directors

(1) The Executive Board in the sense of § 26 BGB (German Civil Code) consists of at least two members of the Association, the Chairperson and his/her deputy. They represent the Association judicially and extrajudicially. One member of the Executive Committee shall represent the Association alone. The number of Board members shall be decided by the General Assembly when appointing the Board.

(2) The members of the Executive Committee shall be elected individually by the General Assembly for a period of one year. Only full members of the Association may be members of the Board; membership in the Association also ends membership in the Board. The re-election or early dismissal of a member by the General Assembly is permissible. A member shall remain in office after the expiry of the regular term of office until the election of his or her successor.

(3) If a member leaves the Executive Committee prematurely, the remaining members of the Executive Committee shall be entitled to elect a member of the Association to the Executive Committee until the election of the replacement by the General Assembly.

(4) The Board of Directors may appoint special representatives within the meaning of § 30 of the German Civil Code (BGB), in particular a full-time or part-time managing director.

§ 8 General Assembly

(1) The General Assembly is the supreme organ of the Association. Its tasks include, in particular, the election and deselection of the Executive Board, discharge of the

Executive Board, acceptance of the reports of the Executive Board, introduction, abolition and determination of contributions and their due dates, passing resolutions on amendments to the Statutes, passing resolutions on the dissolution of the Association, deciding on the exclusion of members in cases of appeal as well as other tasks, insofar as these arise from the Statutes or according to the law.

- (2) The ordinary general meeting of members shall take place once a year. In addition, a general meeting must be convened if the interest of the association requires it or if at least 1/4 of the members request the convening in writing, stating the purpose and the reasons. The General Assembly shall be convened in writing by the Executive Board with a notice period of two weeks and stating the agenda.
- (3) The general meeting can be held on site or online. In the case of an on-site general meeting, members can also participate online.
- (4) The agenda shall be supplemented if a member requests this in writing at least one week before the scheduled date. The addition shall be announced at the beginning of the meeting. Motions to amend the Statutes and to dissolve the Association which have not already been sent to the members with the invitation to the General Assembly may only be decided at the next General Assembly.
- (5) The General Assembly shall constitute a quorum irrespective of the number of members present.
- (6) The General Assembly shall be chaired by a member of the Executive Committee. If all members of the Executive Committee are prevented from attending, the General Assembly shall be chaired by a chairperson to be elected by the General Assembly.
- (7) A secretary shall be elected at the beginning of the general meeting.
- (8) Each member shall have one vote. The right to vote may only be exercised in person or for a member upon presentation of a written proxy.
- (9) Voting shall be decided by a simple majority of the votes cast. Amendments to the statutes and the dissolution of the association can only be decided with a majority of 2/3 of the members present. Abstentions and invalid votes shall be disregarded.
- (10) Minutes shall be taken of the resolutions of the General Meeting and shall be signed by the Chairperson and the Secretary.

§ 9 Auditors

- (1) By resolution of the General Assembly, up to three auditors may be elected.
- (2) They shall be elected by the General Assembly for one year. Re-election is permitted.
- (3) The auditors may not be members of the Executive Committee. The audit shall be carried out by members of the Association. An audit by external auditors is also possible.

- (4) They shall audit the cash management at least once a year. They shall prepare a cash report on this audit, which shall be presented to the General Assembly. They shall have the right to carry out an audit at any time and unannounced.
- (5) The auditors shall be accountable only to the general meeting.

§ 10 Amendments to the Articles of Association

- (1) Amendments to the Statutes can only be made by resolution of the General Assembly with a two-thirds majority of the members present if they have been proposed by the Executive Committee or one third of the members. These motions must be justified and submitted in writing to the Executive Board four weeks before the General Assembly and announced to the members with the invitation to the General Assembly.
- (2) Amendments to the Statutes that become necessary due to changes in legislation, ordinances or official directives may be decided by the Executive Committee. They shall be presented to the General Assembly.

§11 Dissolution of the Association

- (1) The dissolution of the Association must be proposed by at least half of the individual members or by a majority of the Board.
The General Assembly shall decide on the motion in a meeting convened exclusively for this purpose.
- (2) Dissolution is only possible if the members present approve the motion with a three-quarters majority of the votes cast.
In the event of the dissolution of the Association or in the event of the discontinuation of tax-privileged purposes, the assets shall, after covering existing obligations, be allocated to a legal entity under public law or to another tax-privileged body, to be determined by the General Assembly, for the exclusive and direct use for charitable purposes as set out in §2.

§12 Code of Conduct

- (1) The Code of Conduct shall be adopted by the Board of Directors with a two-thirds majority and may be amended with a two-thirds majority. The Code of Conduct must be compatible with the regulations and objectives of the Statutes.
- (2) Upon request, the Code of Conduct may be amended by a simple majority vote of the General Assembly.

- (3) All individual members, through their membership, acknowledge the Code of Conduct and undertake to act in accordance with it.
- (4) If the Code of Conduct is amended, all individual members shall be informed in writing. Within a period of two weeks after written notification of the updated Code of Conduct, each individual member may lodge an objection in writing. The objection may apply to individual regulations or to the entire Code of Conduct.
- (5) If there is no objection, the amended Code of Conduct shall enter into force two weeks after written notification.
- (6) If there is an objection to the amendment of the Code of Conduct, the Executive Board must vote on the objection within a period of two weeks. If a) the objection is accepted, the amendment of the objected new regulation is withdrawn. If b) the objection is rejected, the amended Code of Conduct shall enter into force. In any case, all individual members must be informed of the decision in writing within three weeks with a statement of reasons. In the event of rejection, the amendment to the Code of Conduct may be withdrawn by the General Assembly in accordance with §13(2).

Adopted 17.06.2023