

Gesellschaft zur Erforschung des 18. Jahrhunderts im südöstlichen Europa

www.sog18.org

Society for 18th Century Studies on South Eastern Europe

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STATUTES

§ 1 Name, statutory seat and society's language

The association's name is *Society for 18th Century Studies on South Eastern Europe* (SOG18; Gesellschaft zur Erforschung des 18. Jahrhunderts im südöstlichen Europa, Société d'études du dix-huitième siècle sur l'Europe du Sud-Est). Under *South Eastern Europe* is understood the conglomerate of regions, that in the 18th century belonged to the Eastern part of the Habsburg monarchy, the Moldau and Wallachia, the European territory of the Ottoman empire as also the Eastern Mediterranean region and thus exhibited an intrinsic profile. With *18th century* it is stipulated not only the time between 1700 and 1800, but due to pivotal processes spans from the last third of the 17th to the first third of the 19th century. The society's statutory seat is in Graz, Austria. The language spoken during board meetings is German. During the general assemblies English may be used.

§ 2 Aim

(a) The society, a non profit organisation, intends to promote the research on topics encompassing *the South Eastern Europe of the 18th century and the role the 18th century played for the development of South Eastern Europe* and thus to obtain substantial and interdisciplinary insight, offering deeper understanding of historic and current circumstances. The society thus focuses on the correlation of territorial, chronological and factual phenomena and seeks here for to include appropriate scientific disciplines.

(b) The society's duty is to,

- open innovative questioning,
- precede interdisciplinary and comparatively,
- offer a forum for national and international experts engaged in these two topics,
- promote young academics,
- intimately collaborate with the International Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (ISECS/SIEDS),
- present the research findings to a broader national and international audience.

§ 3 Activities

All kinds of scientific events, publications and PR measures will serve to achieve the aims listed in § 2.

§ 4 Financial means to attain the society's aim

The necessary financial means must be raised through

- membership fees,
- subsidies from public authorities,
- private contributions and sponsoring,
- cooperation with other research institutions.

§ 5 Membership

- (a) National or international, physical or legal entities can become members.
- (b) The board decides on the admission of members.
- (c) Admission may be refused without stating a reason.

§ 6 Membership termination

- (a) Membership is terminated through death, voluntary disengagement, or exclusion.
- (b) The board may exclude a member, who after a reasonable period of respite has not paid the membership fee for over two years, who has violated the membership rights or who has shown dishonourable conduct.
- (c) Members may contest their exclusion and appeal in writing to the general assembly within two weeks after having received the notification; the general assembly's final ruling is then definite.

§ 7 Rights and duties of members

- (a) Members may participate in all the society's events and may benefit from any of the society's facilities. All members have the right to pass an active or passive vote and may vote at the general assembly.
- (b) Members are bound to facilitate the society's interests within their power and to refrain from any activities that may harm or hinder the organisation's aims.

§ 8 Association's body

The general assembly, the board and controller make up the body of the organisation.

§ 9 General assembly

- (a) The general assembly is, as defined by the Austrian association act 2002, the 'members assembly'. The regular general assembly takes place every three years, while per ruling by the executive board, the general assembly, by a tenth of the members or by the controller, an exceptional general assembly may be called and held within six weeks.
- (b) All members must be invited to the ordinary or extraordinary general assembly, in writing (email or fax) three weeks before the meeting. The invitation must also include the agenda, which by simple majority of votes can be expanded – with the exception of the voluntary dissolution of the society.
- (c) A vote can be transferred to another member, if a written authorisation is produced. There are no more than two votes per member.

- (d) The general assembly has the quorum, when at least 8 members are present and a further four written votes from members can be presented.
- (e) Votes and resolutions may be effected during the general assembly by simple majority of valid votes. The statutes' amendments and the voluntary dissolution of the society need the consent of two thirds of valid votes.
- (f) The general assembly is chaired by the chairman, or in his/her absence by the deputy chairman. In the case of absence of both, the eldest board member will chair the meeting.
- (g) The duties of the general assembly include
- the reception and approval of the board's triennial financial report as also the presentation of the accounts' balance in the presents of the controller,
 - support of the board,
 - election and supersession of the board and of the controller,
 - determination of the membership fee,
 - amendment of the statutes or the voluntary dissolution of the society.

§ 10 Executive board

- (a) The executive board is made up of 8 people:
- a chairman
 - a deputy chairman,
 - a secretary,
 - a deputy secretary,
 - a treasurer,
 - a deputy treasurer
 - two assessors.
- (b) The term of office for the board members is three years. A re-election is possible.
- (c) The board is summoned either by the chairman, or in his absence, by the deputy chairman.
- (d) Board meetings will be presided by the chairman, or in the absence of the latter, by the deputy chairman, or by the eldest member of the board.
- (e) The board will meet twice a year, to work on the agenda. One of these two meetings may be held electronically.
- (f) The board has the quorum, if all its members were invited and at least half of them are present. Simple majority makes the decisions; in case of a tie the vote of the chairman has the decisive vote.
- (g) The board's duties are in the planning of the programme, shared responsibility for the execution of the latter, the management of the society's funds, the execution of the general assembly and the representation of the society on the exterior.

(h) The office of a board member terminates through death or when the term of office has come to its end, through supersession by the general assembly or through written resignation.

§ 11 Controller

(a) Two controllers will be elected by the general assembly for the duration of three years; a re-election is possible.

(b) The two controllers are responsible for the audit and management of the finances with regard to the compliance of the society's accounting and conform with the statutes on using the financial means.

§ 12 Arbitration

(a) Any conflicts that may arise relating to the association will be mediated by the association's own arbitration panel.

(b) The arbitration panel consists of three members. These members must not be part of the board. Both opposing parties nominate one member each. These two nominate a third member to make up the arbitration panel.

(c) The arbitration panel comes to its decision by majority of votes, after both parties have had their say in front of all the members. The decision is made to the best of the panel's knowledge and belief. The decision is final.

§ 13 The society's voluntary dissolution

(a) The voluntary dissolution of the society can only be decided upon at a general assembly by two-thirds majority of valid votes.

(b) Any financial assets will be granted to an organisation with a similar aim as SOG18, as per decision by the general assembly.