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First version according to written communication from the LPD (Provincial Police Department):

Notification of the constitution of the association from 2 February 2018

Constitution of the association from 2 March 2017

Statutes of the Association

I.

Name, Location and activities

1. The Association is called „EL*C Eurocentralasian Lesbian* Community – Europäisch-zentralasiatischer Lesbenverband“.
2. The Association is a lesbian feminist and intersectional network based in Vienna and its activities extend in particular onto Europe and Central Asia. The Association is also implementing activities in all other world regions.
3. The association is an international non-governmental and non-profit organisation registered in accordance with the Austrian Law for registered non-profit organisations 2002. The creation of branch associations is intended.
4. In these Statutes, the word lesbian is used as a broad inclusive term, including lesbians who identify as trans, non-binary, as well as intersex lesbians, and bisexual or queer women.

II.

Purpose

1. Carried by the belief that it is beneficial to the common good when society accepts its minorities in particular and protects their rights as part of society, the Association, whose activity is not aimed at profit, aims to:
 - a. contribute to a liberal-minded, non-discriminating and equal society and to fight all forms of discrimination based on gender, origin or ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability as well as religion or worldview (Weltanschauung);
 - b. contribute to the promotion of human rights and human dignity in general and to the protection of the human rights of lesbians in particular

- c. set out essential impulses for the legal equality of lesbians especially in the areas education training, labour market, in private or public life as well as with regards to access to resources, services and information;
- d. contribute to the elimination of prejudices that exist in society towards lesbians
- e. raise awareness on the topic of discrimination against lesbians based on their gender, sexual orientation, gender expression and/or gender identity;
- f. support the fight against the oppression, persecution and discrimination of lesbians;
- g. contribute to the dissemination and visibility of cultural and social contributions produced by lesbians;
- h. support lesbian organisations and lesbian groups in their activities, campaigns and as community builders, as well as lesbians' human rights defenders;
- i. promote the establishment of national and regional networks of lesbian organisations and groups working for the empowerment of lesbian communities and for the elimination of prejudices, discrimination and all forms of violence against lesbians based on their gender, sexual orientation, gender expression and/or gender identity;
- j. conduct advocacy activities and cooperate with national governments and intergovernmental and international organisations such as the Council of Europe, the European Union, the United Nations, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, and their respective entities as well as with other relevant organisations to strengthen efforts to eliminate prejudices and all forms of violence and discrimination against lesbians based on their gender, sexual orientation, gender expression and/or gender identity and support the effort of creating empowered lesbian communities.
- k. to increase organizational and financial capacities of lesbian organizations and lesbian groups.

III.

Means to achieve the purpose of the association

1. The purpose of the association shall be attained through the means hereafter and the financial resources laid out in para. 2 conducting public relations and public education work, journalistic and media work to inform about the realities of lesbians-lives and to fight prejudices;
 - a. organising lectures, workshops, trainings, seminars, discussions, cultural events, networking meetings, assemblies and rallies for the purpose of the association, especially a recurring international conference;
 - b. supporting lesbians-through the provision of information and consultation with regards to social questions as well as support of other associations and organisations with a similar purpose;
 - c. supporting and consultation for people and groups who suffer from discrimination and the effects of discrimination;
 - d. carrying out and supporting the conduct of surveys, researches, scientific works and publications that serve the purpose of the association;

- e. publishing periodic magazines, including a newsletter (print or digital); information booklets or other publications; creating and making available films and audio-visual media and their digital archiving; as well as creating and maintaining websites and social media appearances;
- f. networking and collaboration with other associations and institutions with a similar purpose, in particular through collaboration and membership in umbrella organisations, advisory councils, foundations or corporations, through participation in activities and realisation of common activities;
- g. renting, leasing and buying of suitable spaces, buildings or estates, as well as managing *inter alia* an events and communication centre, a library and archives within such spaces;
- h. bestowing awards and honorary titles;
- i. strengthening the EL*C Network and membership in Europe, Central Asia and internationally.
- j. providing financial assistance to lesbian organizations and lesbian groups through grants and donations.

2. The required financial resources will be raised through:

- a. joining fees and membership fees;
- b. grants and subsidies from the European Union and other international organisations as well as national governments and private foundations;
- c. project grants from programmes of European and international organisations, as well as from private foundations;
- d. donations, collections, bequests, sponsorships from individuals and organisations;
- e. revenues of the associations' events that pursue the aim of the association;
- f. sponsorship money and advertising revenue from activities that pursue the purpose of the association;
- g. income from activities as "vicarious agent"/assistant (Erfüllungsgehilfe).

3. As far as serves its purpose, the association is further allowed to:

- a. make use of "vicarious agents"/assistants (Erfüllungsgehilfen) according to § 40 para. 1 Bundesabgabenordnung (BAO) (Federal Fiscal Law) or to itself act as "vicarious agent"/assistant (Erfüllungsgehilfe),
- b. transfer money or other financial assets according to § 40a Z 1 BAO to associations nominated as "beneficiary of donations" (i.e. an organisation that is recorded in the list of donation beneficiary associations) with a corresponding dedication to that effect, as long as there is congruence with the purpose of the association, and

- c. provide supplies and other services according to § 40a Z 2 BAO at cost price for other common-benefit or charitable associations, as long as there is at least one common purpose with the organisation.

IV.

Types of membership

1. The members of the association are divided into full **and** associate members.
2. Full members are those who participate fully in the association's work.
3. Associate members are those who support the work of the association spiritually and financially, but are not bestowed the rights and duties reserved to full members, pursuant to Article VII.

V.

Acquisition of membership

1. All physical persons, groups and legal entities, who support the purposes of the association, can become members. The General Assembly can specify the criteria for the admission of members via a Resolution.
2. The Board decides the admittance of every full and associate member. The admittance can be denied without being motivated.
3. One tenth of full members, can request the Board to present the grounds for the denial of the membership at the following General Assembly through a motion to the agenda. That General Assembly can confirm or reject the Board decision.
4. Up to the formation of the association, the temporary admittance of full and associate members is made through the association's founders, if a Board is already appointed, through them. This membership is effective only once the association is formed. In case the Board is appointed after the formation of the association, the (definite) admittance of full and associate members is made through the association's founders.

VI.

Termination of membership

1. The membership expires in the case of death, in the case of voluntary resignation, or in the case of expulsion.
2. The membership can be terminated at the end of each month. The Board must be informed in writing at least 1 month prior to termination. If the notification is late, the termination is effective at the

next withdrawal deadline. To determine the punctuality, the date of the sending of the written notification (digital or physical) is applicable.

3. The Board can exclude a member if they are more than six months behind on payment of the membership fee, despite two written reminders and the setting of an appropriate period of respite. The obligation to pay the membership fees which are due remains unaffected.

4. The Board can decide at any time to exclude a member from the association upon good cause; in particular in cases of gross violation of membership obligations and/or in cases of disreputable conduct which permanently damages the relationship of trust between the association and the member. One tenth of the full members, can request the Board to present the grounds for the exclusion of the member at the following General Assembly through a motion to the agenda. That General Assembly can confirm or reject the Board decision.

VII.

Rights and duties of members

1. Members are entitled to participate in all the association's events and to utilise the association's facilities. The right to vote in the general assembly, as well as the active and passive right to vote are only bestowed to those with full membership.
2. All full members have the right to vote in the general assembly (active right to vote). Only full members who are physical persons can stand for elections (passive right to vote).
3. Groups and organisations who are full members form the Lesbian Movement Committee.
4. Every full member has the right to demand the delivery of the statutes from the Board.
5. At least a tenth of the full members can demand the summoning of a general assembly from the Board.
6. The Board has to inform the full members at every general assembly about the activities and the management of the association. At least one tenth of the full members can demand this information with a statement giving the reasons of this request, then the Board has to give the members such information within four weeks after the demand.
7. The Board has to inform the full members about the statement of the audited balance of accounts (accounting). If this happens during the general assembly, the auditors have to be included.
8. Members are obliged to promote the interests of the association to the best of their ability and to refrain from anything whereby the reputation and the purpose of the association are jeopardised. They have to respect the Association Statute and the decisions made by the decision-making bodies. Full and associate members are obliged to pay admission fees and the membership fees, as per the amount agreed upon by the general assembly.

VIII.

Decision-making bodies

1. The bodies of the association are the general assembly (Art. IX and X), the lesbian movement committee (Art. XI), the Board (Art XII and Art. XIV), the taskforce (Art. XIII), the auditors (Art. XVI), and the court of arbitration (Art. XVII).

IX.

General assembly

1. The general assembly is the “assembly of the members” in the sense of the Austrian Associations Act 2002. An Annual General Meeting takes place once a year; it takes place virtually via videocall platform, the details will be regulated through the standing orders (*Geschäftsordnung*) of the General Assembly.
2. An extraordinary meeting takes place if:
 - a. there is decision made by the Board or at the Annual General Meeting;
 - b. at least one tenth of the full members send a request in writing;
 - c. the auditors demand it (§ 21 para. 5, 1st sentence Austrian Associations Act 2002),
 - d. there is decision made by one of the auditors (§ 21 para. 5, 2nd sentence Austrian Associations Act 2002, Art. XI. Para. 2, 3rd sentence of this statute),
 - e. there is decision made by a trustee who has been judicially appointed (Art. XI. Para. 2 last sentence of this statute) within four weeks after arrival of the motion.
3. All full members have to be invited to the ordinary (Annual) as well as the extraordinary assemblies at least four weeks in advance of the date, via the Email address which the members have deposited with the association. The scheduling of the general meeting has to take place with the specification of the agenda. The summoning of the meeting is made either by the Board (Para. 2 and Para. 2 letters a-c), by an auditor (Para. 2 letter d), or via a trustee who has been judicially appointed (Para. 2 letter e).
4. The detailed rules concerning the organisation of the General Assembly as well as the presentation of motions for agenda, the approval of resolutions of the General Assembly and the elections of Board members and auditors are defined by the Standing Orders of the General Assembly.
5. Every full member is entitled to participate in the Annual General Meeting. Every full member has one vote. Groups and legal entities are represented by a representative. The transfer of the right to vote onto another member is not possible.
6. The general assembly has the quorum, regardless of the number of participants.
7. As a rule, elections and resolutions of the general assembly are made with the simple majority (more than 50%) of the submitted, valid votes. The resolutions in which the Association Statute is changed or in which the association is dissolved, need a qualified majority of two thirds of the submitted valid votes.
8. Any of the co-chairwomen shall chair the General Assembly, in case they are both unavailable, the General Assembly is chaired by one of the co-secretaries. The detailed rules and roles on chairing of the General Assembly are provided by the Standing Orders of the General Assembly, in particular

in the case the election of the Board is an item of the agenda or the absence of co-chair and co-secretaries.

X.

Duties of the general assembly

1. The following duties are reserved for the general assembly:
 - a. Resolutions regarding the budget estimate;
 - b. Acceptance and approval of the statement of accounts and the balance of accounts, involving the auditors;
 - c. Election and dismissal of the members of the Board and of the auditors;
 - d. Approval of transactions between the auditors and the association;
 - e. Discharge of the Board;
 - f. Assessment of the amount of the entrance fees and the membership fees for full and associate members;
 - g. Resolutions regarding the amendment of the Association Statute and the voluntary dissolution of the association;
 - h. Consultation and resolution regarding other questions on the agenda.

Article XI.

Lesbian Movement Committee

1. Groups and organisations, who are full members, form the Lesbian Movement Committee (LMC). Before the meeting of the Lesbian Movement Committee, each group and each organisation nominate one representative to attend the meeting of the Lesbian Movement Committee on its behalf.
2. The Standing Orders of the General Assembly regulate the role of the LMC in the motion submission and approval of the general assembly final agenda.
3. The detailed rules concerning the organisation, the summoning and the procedures of the meetings of the Lesbian Movement Committee are defined by the Standing Orders of the General Assembly.

XII.

Board

1. The Board consists of at least six and no more than 15, namely 2 co-chairwomen, 2 co-secretaries, and 2 co-treasurers; as well as at the most 9 further Board members without a specific function. The appointment of the six functions lies with the Board that can set up rules of procedures.
2. Board candidates should be 18 years old and have their legal majority under the law in the countries of residency at the time of the election. Board members are elected by the general assembly if they receive a vote from minimum 5% of voters present at the general assembly and are ranked based on the number of votes until the maximum number of Board members is reached. In case of the resignation of an elected member, the Board has the right to co-opt another eligible member in their place, for which they have to seek approval during the next general meeting. Should the number of Board members drop to less than 6 following the resignation of a Board member, the Board then has to immediately co-opt or to summon a general assembly with the purpose of replacing the members who resigned through new elections. The function period of co-opted Board members equals the function period of the other Board members. If the Board is absent generally or for an unforeseeable amount of time, without self-supplementation via cooptation, then every auditor is obliged to immediately call for an extraordinary assembly to elect a new Board. If the auditors themselves are incapable of acting, then every full member, who recognizes this emergency, has to request the appointment of a trustee, who immediately has to call for an extraordinary meeting, via the responsible court.
3. The term of office for the Board is 3 years; with a maximum of 3 consecutive mandates. Every role within the Board is to be performed personally.
4. Each of the co-chairwomen can summon the Board verbally or in writing. In the event of absence the chairwomen, any of the co-secretaries can summon the Board. If both co-secretary are absent as well for an unforeseeable period of time, then any other member of the Board can summon the Board.
5. The Board has a quorum when all members have been invited and at least half of them are present or participating via video/audioconference.
6. The Board passes a resolution with a simple majority (more than 50%), in the case of tie votes, the item voted is considered rejected.
7. In exceptional circumstances, decisions by the Board can also be made by email and other Internet tools (e.g. Doodle). Board members must be given adequate notice of these votes by email.
8. Each of the co-chairwomen can chair the Board, in case of unavailability of both of them, the Board is chaired by one of the co-secretaries or by a member of the Board who has been designated by the majority of the other members of the Board.
9. Except through either death or the expiry of the term of office, the role of a Board member expires through removal from office and resignation.
10. The general assembly can absolve the whole Board or individual members from responsibility at any time.
11. The members of the Board can announce their resignation anytime in writing. The letter of resignation is to be addressed to the Board; in case of the entire Board resigning, it has to be addressed to the general assembly.

XIII

Taskforce

1. The Taskforce shall be composed by the 2 co-chairs, the 2 co-secretaries, and the 2 co-treasurers.
2. The Taskforce supports the daily management of the organisation, liaising with the Executive management. The Taskforce reports regularly to the Board, in accordance with /rules of procedures set up by the Board.

XIV.

Duties of the Board

1. It is for the Board to lead the association. It is the “governing body” under the aim of the Austrian Associations Act 2002. It carries out all duties which have not been assigned to another body of the association under the Association Statute. The following matters are covered in its sphere of action:
 - a. Establishing an accounting system, which meets the needs of the association, with an on-going record of the proceeds/expenses and the governance of a list of assets as a minimum requirement;
 - b. Preparing the annual estimate of costs, the statement of accounts, and the balance of accounts;
 - c. Preparing and summoning the general assembly in case of Art. IX. Para. 1 and Para. 2 letters a – c of this statute;
 - d. Informing the members about: association activities, the financial management, and the audited balance of accounts;
 - e. Administering of the association funds;
 - f. Admitting and expelling full and associate members;
 - g. Recruiting and dismissing executive manager(s);
 - h. Recruiting and dismissing employees of the association, in accordance with the executive manager(s);
 - i. The Board can appoint an Executive Management of the organisation, which can consist of one or more persons. Executive manager(s) with powers of representation, as an organisation's body, are appointed with a term of office of ten years

XV.

Specific obligations of individual Board members and executive managers

1. The co-chairwomen, co-treasurers and the executive managers individually represent the organisation to the outside world, towards third parties and authorities. Legal transactions between Board members and the association require the consent of another Board member.
2. When necessary, the Board can delegate to a Board member the representation of the association towards third parties for specific acts;
3. The co-chairwomen are the chairs of the general assembly and the Board;
4. The co-secretaries keep the minutes of the general assembly and the Board meetings;

5. The co-treasurers are responsible for the proper management of the association's finances;

XVI.

Auditor

1. Two auditors are elected by the general assembly for the period of two years. Re-election is possible. The auditors must not be members of any other organ - apart from the general assembly - whose activity is the subject of the audit.
2. The auditors have to check the financial management of the association with regards to the regularity of the accounting and the proper usage of the association's funds according to the statutes within 4 months starting with the creation of the proceeds and expenses report. The Board has to provide the auditors with the required documents and information. The auditors have to report the results of the audit to the general assembly. The audit report has to confirm the regularity of the accounting and the proper usage of the association's funds according to the statutes or has to highlight deficiencies or dangers to the existence of the association. Furthermore, self-dealings (*Insichgeschäfte*) as well as extraordinary proceeds or expenses have to be highlighted.
3. Legal transactions between the auditors and the association need to be approved by the general assembly. The auditors have to adhere to the remainder of the clauses Art. XI Para. 8 to 10 correspondingly.

XVII.

Arbitration

1. To reconcile all conflicts connected to the association, arbitration is summoned within the association. It is a "mediation Board" in the sense of the Austrian Associations Act 2002 and not an arbitration under §§ 577 ff ZPO.
2. The arbitration consists of three full members. It is formed when one of the affected parties names a member as arbitrator in writing, addressed to the Board. Through the request of the Board and within seven days, the other party names a member for the arbitration within 14 days. Within seven days after notification of the Board, the arbitrators elect within 14 days a third full member as chairperson of the arbitration. In case of a tie vote, one of the suggested members is chosen at random. The members of the arbitration may not belong to any other organ - apart from the general assembly - whose activity is the subject of the dispute.
3. The arbitration takes a decision after listening to both parties in the presence of all members with a simple majority. They take a decision to the best of their knowledge and belief. Their decisions are final within the association.

XVIII.

Voluntary liquidation of the association

1. The voluntary liquidation of the association can only be decided by the general assembly and only with a two-third majority of the submitted, valid votes.
2. The general assembly has to decide on the liquidation, in the case that there are association funds existing. In particular, a liquidator has to be named and a resolution concerning who will receive the association funds after coverage of the liability has to be passed.
3. The last Board has to inform the responsible association authorities of the voluntary liquidation within four weeks after the resolution.

XIX.

Usage of the association funds in case of voluntary liquidation, or omission of the benefited purpose

1. In case of the association's liquidation (voluntary or by the authorities) or omission of the benefited purpose, the association funds, after coverage of the liability, have to be spent on common- benefit, charitable or ecclesiastical purposes, according to §§ 34 ff Federal Fiscal Code (BAO). Insofar as it is possible and permitted, it shall go to institutions with the same or a similar purpose as this association under condition to use the funds solely for common-benefit purposes according to §§ 34 ff BAO.