



# Learning from Cultures e.V.

## Preamble

The association 'Learning from Cultures' aims to develop holistic educational and learning content itself and/or in co-operation with others. The main focus is on the areas of health and the environment, which are to be designed in a 'kid-friendly' way with the participation of children/young people.

Despite the constant increase in knowledge and the boundaries drawn within individual sciences, the aim is to create a body of knowledge that makes it possible to recognise commonalities and maintain an overview of the whole. These should be made available to the targeted projects across countries and cultures.

In order to ensure an even flow of information for intercultural work, projects abroad should be promoted accordingly. The aim of innovative learning is not the reproduction of acquired knowledge, but the intelligent integration of new knowledge. The integration of one's own cultural elements into modern ways of life and the exchange of knowledge available in every culture should strengthen the significance of tradition and culture. In this way, people are educated who can fulfil their responsibility towards themselves, society and the environment.

The target group in emerging countries is primarily parentless children and those from disadvantaged families. They should be given the same starting conditions - i.e. a good education and vocational training - regardless of their



social background. This is also an important contribution to counteracting increasing child abuse.

For the construction of a model training centre in the respective target country, resource-conserving classroom buildings and accommodation in local traditional construction methods are planned, incorporating ecological aspects (e.g. stilt construction technology as a replacement for air conditioning, water treatment, use of solar cells...).

In such a model centre, typical national working techniques with sensible ecological innovations from other countries can be demonstrated, trained and presented to the population.

The principle of 'helping people to help themselves' can be internalised from the outset in a boarding school-like all-round care environment. Older people take responsibility for younger people and guide them according to their abilities. Children/young people should be involved in projects and contribute their points of view. Particularly talented young people can be given the opportunity to study in other countries through scholarships.

The respective model training centres should be transformed into economically independent and functioning units.



# Statutes

## § 1 Purpose of the association

(1) The purpose of the association is to provide holistic support to needy children and young people, regardless of nationality, social status or religion, in the areas of education, health and the environment and to contribute to the long-term improvement of their living conditions.

(2) The association is a non-profit organisation. It does not primarily pursue own economic purposes, but exclusively and directly charitable (§52 AO) and benevolent concerns (§53 AO) in the sense of the section 'Tax-privileged purposes' of the tax code.

(3) The charitable purpose of the association is realised through financial support for the development of child-friendly educational opportunities and the establishment of schools and training centres for children and young people in need

(4) In promoting projects abroad, the association also makes use of auxiliary persons or organisations.

(5) For this purpose, the Association may provide financial or material resources to other, likewise tax-privileged corporations, corporations under public law or a suitable public authority if these bodies use the funds to promote measures in accordance with paragraphs 1 to 3

Donations to tax-privileged corporations and/or corporations under public law that pursue other charitable purposes than those listed in para. 1 are permitted, but should not outweigh them.

(6) The Association's funds may only be used for the purposes set out in the Articles of Association. Members shall not receive any benefits from the funds of the association.



(7) No person may be favoured by expenses that are alien to the purpose of the association or by disproportionately high remuneration.

(8) All contributions, income and funds of the association shall be used exclusively to fulfil the purpose of the association.

## **§ 2 Name and registered office of the association**

(1) The name of the association is 'Learning from cultures'. It shall be entered in the register of associations and shall then bear the addition 'e.V.' at

(2) The Association shall have its registered office in Bielefeld.

(3) The financial year is the calendar year.

(4) The Association is politically, ethically and denominationally neutral.

## **§ 3 Membership**

(1) Members can be natural and legal persons who are particularly associated with the association and its objectives.

(2) In addition to honorary members (see appendix), members of the association who have rendered outstanding services to the association

as responsible board members within the meaning of § 8 may be appointed honorary chairmen of the association by resolution of the general meeting.

(3) Honorary chairpersons are not members of the association's Executive Board as defined in § 8 of the Articles of Association. It is not possible to be both a member of the Executive Board and Honorary Chairperson.



## **§ Section 4 Rights and duties of members**

- (1) Members and honorary members have the right to vote at the general meeting.
- (2) Members have the right to submit motions.
- (3) Members are obliged to
  - a. to promote the objectives of the Association to the best of their ability,
  - b. to pay the membership fee on time.
  - c. Address changes must be updated via the portal [www.von-kulturen-lernen.de](http://www.von-kulturen-lernen.de) to be kept up to date at

## **§ 5 Admission of new members**

- (1) Admission must be applied for in writing. The Board of Directors decides on the admission of by a simple majority of votes.
- (2) Membership ends
  - a. by death,
  - b. by resignation,
  - c. by exclusion.
- (3) Notice of resignation must be given in writing by registered letter to the Executive Board. A quarter's notice period to the end of the year at must be observed.
- (4) Expulsion can take place



- a. if the member is in arrears with the payment of the annual membership fee despite a third reminder,
- b. in the event of gross or repeated violation of the articles of association or the interests of the association,
- c. for other serious reasons affecting the interests of the association (violation of the free democratic basic order).

(5) The Association Board decides on expulsion, which takes immediate effect, by a simple majority of votes. Before a decision is made on the expulsion, the member concerned must be given the opportunity to comment on the accusations made within a period of two weeks.

The member has the right to appeal against the decision to the general meeting. This shall make the final decision; membership rights shall be suspended until this point in time.

(6) Upon termination of membership, all claims arising from the membership relationship shall lapse, without prejudice to the association's claim to outstanding contribution claims. A refund of contributions, contributions in kind or donations is excluded.

## **§ Section 6 Fees**

- (1) The association charges an annual fee, the amount of which is determined by the general meeting.
- (2) The fee is payable for one year even if the member leaves, is excluded or joins during a financial year.
- (3) The Association's Board of Directors has the right, in exceptional cases, to waive the fee in full or in part, to defer it or to grant payment by instalments.



(4) The annual membership fee is payable in advance for the membership year; the membership fee obligation arises at the beginning of the year.

## **§ 7 Bodies of the Association**

The bodies of the Association are

- a. the General Meeting
- b. the Executive Board.

## **§ 8 The Executive Board**

(1) The Executive Board consists of the

- a. 1st Chairperson
- b. 2nd Chairperson
- c. Secretary
- d. Treasurer

(2) The association is represented in and out of court by the 1st or 2nd chairperson. The 1st and 2nd Chairperson shall be authorised to sign and represent the Association individually.

(3) The Executive Board manages the day-to-day business of the Association. It is responsible for managing the Association's assets and implementing the Association's resolutions. Amendments to the Articles of Association that are required by supervisory, judicial or financial authorities for formal reasons may be made by the Executive Board on its own initiative. The amendments shall be announced by the next General Meeting at the latest.



(4) The 1st and 2nd chairpersons shall receive a lump-sum expense allowance, which shall be determined by the Executive Board.

(5) If required, association offices can be exercised in return for payment on the basis of an employment contract or in return for payment of an expense allowance in accordance with Section 3 No. 26a EStG (German Income Tax Act) within the scope of budgetary possibilities. The decision on remunerated association activities in accordance with para. 2 is made by the Executive Board. The same applies to the content of the contract and the termination of the contract.

(6) The Executive Board is elected by the General Assembly for a term of two years. However, it remains in office until a new Board of Directors has been elected. The Board of Directors may be re-elected.

(7) The Executive Board passes its resolutions in Executive Board meetings, which can also be held via

video conferencing. The meetings are convened and chaired by

the 1st Chairperson or, if he/she is unable to do so, by

the 2nd Chairperson. The Executive Board passes resolutions

by a simple majority of the votes cast.

In the event of a tie, the vote of the person chairing the meeting shall be decisive.

In the event of the resignation or permanent incapacity of a member of the Executive Board, the remaining members of the Executive Board have the right to appoint a temporary replacement until the next General Meeting.

(8) The Executive Board may appoint an Advisory Board to assist the Association in an advisory capacity with its expertise.





## § Section 9 The General Meeting

(1) The ordinary General Meeting shall be convened once a year via the Association's website

[www.von-kulturen-lernen.de](http://www.von-kulturen-lernen.de).

(2) The agenda must be announced to members on the Association's website two weeks in advance.

(3) The agenda of the general meeting shall be decided by the executive committee. Members have the right to submit motions.

(4) An extraordinary general meeting shall be convened in the event of extraordinary circumstances if 30% of the members submit a written request to this effect.

## § 10 Tasks of the general meeting

The general meeting shall have the following tasks:

- a. the election of the Executive Board,
- b. the election of two cash auditors (staggered by one year) for a term of two years. The cash auditors have the right to audit the association's cash and books at any time if this is requested in writing by 30% of the members. They shall report to the report to the general meeting on the audit of the entire bookkeeping and cash management.
- c. Receiving the annual and cash reports of the executive committee, the audit report of the cash auditors and granting discharge.
- d. Passing resolutions on all matters concerning the association (amendments to the statutes, dissolution of the association, etc.).



## **§ 11 Passing resolutions at the general meeting**

(1) The general meeting shall be chaired by a chairperson elected by the general meeting until the executive committee is discharged and a new one is elected.

(2) The general meeting shall pass its resolutions by a simple majority of the votes cast, unless the law or the statutes stipulate a different majority. other majority of votes.

The general meeting shall constitute a quorum if it has been duly convened and 30% of its members are present.

(3) Minutes shall be taken of the resolutions of the general meeting and shall be signed by the respective chairperson of the meeting and the minute-taker.

## **§ 12 Dissolution of the association**

(1) The association shall be dissolved by resolution of the general meeting, whereby three quarters of the votes cast must be in favour of the dissolution

(2) The general meeting shall appoint three liquidators to wind up the association's affairs.

(3) In the event of the dissolution or abolition of the association or the discontinuation of its tax-privileged purposes, the association's assets shall fall to a legal entity under public law for the purpose of promoting educational content, in particular in the fields of holistic health and environmental education.



## Appendix

### Membership agreements

(1) Persons who have rendered outstanding services to the association may be appointed honorary members by resolution of the executive committee .

Honorary members have all the rights of ordinary members and are included in the 'Hall of Fame'. They are exempt from paying membership fees

(2) The honorary chairperson, like the honorary members, is exempt from paying membership fees.

Bielefeld, 1 May 2010

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Beate Schoone \_\_\_\_\_

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