

**The Constitution of the
International Students' Union (ISU - UiO)
At The University of Oslo**

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I. The Constitution of the International Students' Union (ISU), University of Oslo

Article 1: The International Students' Union

- 1.1 The organisation to which this Constitution refers is known as The International Students' Union of at the University of Oslo referred to hereafter as "ISU".
- 1.2 ISU is an independent, democratic, non-religious, non-racial, non-profit, non-partisan student organisation committed to the interests of all international students at the University of Oslo.
- 1.3 The official language of ISU is English.
- 1.4 ISU is an autonomous part of the Norwegian Students' Union (Norsk Student Union, NSU)

Article 2: Objectives

- 2.1 ISU represents the interests of all members in whatever way possible, including amongst other things: Statements and comments made by the University of Oslo, matters concerning members in general, e.g. general welfare, social problems, academic issues, language and accommodation.
- 2.2 Forwarding unity amongst members, socially, culturally and otherwise.
- 2.3 Forwarding good relations between members and the community in which they live and study.
- 2.4 Keeping contact with and assist other organisations with similar or compatible objectives.
- 2.5 Cooperating (ISU will co-operate) with the NSU to further common objectives.
- 2.6 As pursued by the appointed board, organizing and/or participating as desired, organise and/or participate in any actions, activities and functions that advance or are compatible with the above objectives.

Article 3: Membership

- 3.1 A member of ISU is a student with a student ID number and a valid semester card, studying at the University of Oslo and meeting one of the following requirements:
 - 3.1.1 Any student not holding a Norwegian passport;
 - 3.1.2 Any student holding a dual passport;
 - 3.1.3 Any student who has notified both ISU and NSU that he is a member of ISU.
- 3.2 All non-Norwegian students studying at the University of Oslo are automatically members of ISU.

Article 4: Privileges

- 4.1 All board members shall be entitled to participation in the ISU General Assembly (GA or NA).
- 4.2 All board members have the right to vote at the General Assembly, should they be chosen as delegates for the particular session of Assembly.
- 4.3 All board members shall be entitled to participation in all activities organised by ISU.

Article 5: ISU General Assembly (GA)

- 5.1 The General Assembly (Or sometimes referred to as National Assembly) is the primary decision-making body of ISU.
- 5.2 There shall be at least one General Assembly per semester as soon as this is considered convenient by the Executive for the members.
- 5.3 At least two weeks notice must be given for a General Assembly. The ISU executive must try to reach as many members as possible.
- 5.4 An agenda must be available for collection by members at the ISU office.
- 5.5 Any ballot shall not be valid until at least 10% of the ISU members are present.
- 5.6 A detailed programme for the General Assembly is stated in the Regulations.

Article 6: The Executive Committee

- 6.1 The Executive Committee shall be elected at the General Assembly. The Election procedure is described in the Regulations.
- 6.2 The Executive Committee shall consist of President, Vice-President, General Secretary, Financial Secretary, Social Affairs Secretary, Web-Master, Academic and Sports Secretary, Press Editor, and the Academic Review Chief Managing Editor. A representative of the Student Parliament and other supporters are welcome to join at the Executive board's discretion
- 6.3 The ISU Executive Committee shall manage the daily affairs of ISU.
- 6.4 The Term of Office of the Executive Committee shall be one semester. As an exception to this rule the Term of Office of the President **must be** one year, in order to ensure continuation in ISU. The President is elected on the Autumn Semester. Outgoing Executive members are allowed and encouraged to candidate for Executive positions again.
- 6.5 Should the President need to leave before his term of office is up, the Vice-president assumes the position until the most immediate elections, where a new president is necessarily elected once more.
- 6.6 The obligations of each member of the Executive are stated in the Regulations.

Article 7: Status of the Constitution and Regulations

- 7.1 The Constitution and the Regulations shall be binding to the Executive Committee members and all members of the Association.
- 7.2 Any action contrary to the Constitution shall be subject to approval only by unanimous decision of the Executive Committee (ISU UiO Board).
- 7.3 Any action contrary to the Regulations shall be subject to approval by two thirds of the ISU Executive Committee.
- 7.4 The support of at least two thirds of the members present at the Executive committee (ISU UiO Board) shall be required to amend the Constitution or the Regulations.
- 7.5 The Constitution for the International Students' Union at the University of Oslo can only be changed during election period, in the presence of no less than 30 international students either in the spring semester, or the fall semester. No other time should be considered adequate for a voting procedure upon the constitution, and the acceptance of a new constitution will pass by means of a simple majority vote among the constituency.
- 7.6 The vote upon a constitution change or amendment may be passed only with simple majority of the assembled Quorum or constituency. The assembled Quorum will be a minimum of 30 international students at the University of Oslo, a number which may include members of the ISU Executive Committee (ISU UiO Board).

II. The Regulations of the International Students' Union General Assembly Procedures

Article 1: Conduct of the General Assembly (GA)

- 1.1 The GA shall be opened by the President. The ISU President shall, subject to the approval of the GA, chair the GA.
- 1.2 All participants in the GA shall have the right to speak. Speakers shall address the GA through the chairperson.
- 1.3 The chairperson shall have the powers to remove the right to speak from any participant who disrupts or obstructs the proceedings of the GA.
- 1.4 Speakers shall adhere to the matter being considered. The Chairperson shall bring back to order any speaker failing to do this.
- 1.5 The Agenda of the GA will be followed.
- 1.6 Topics to be discussed during the scheduled spring and autumn General Assembly will include reports from the Executive about activities performed, the ISU financial report and the elections of the new Executive. Other topics can be included on request.
- 1.7 Extraordinary GAs may be called by the Executive Committee or any member who obtains 10% of the members' signatures for support.

Article 2: Voting Procedures

- 2.1 The various alternatives for discussion about a particular subject shall be put forward to the NA during the time allocated. A discussion will follow the suggestions made.
- 2.2 A vote shall be taken for the preferred option. Any option that receives more than 50% of the votes (excluding abstentions) shall be considered elected.
- 2.3 If there are more than 2 alternatives and none of the options receives more than 50% of the votes, there shall be consecutive ballots in which the alternative receiving the least number of votes shall be eliminated.
- 2.4 Secret ballots shall be taken on request by any 3 members of the GA. In all other cases voting shall be conducted by a show of hands. Secret ballots shall take place on ballot paper which is handed over to every member upon presentation of a University identity card.
- 2.5 No interruptions shall be allowed during the vote or the count.
- 2.6 A voting committee consisting of 3 persons shall be appointed by the General Assembly. The voting committee shall be responsible for counting of the votes.

III. The Forming of a competent Executive Board by the International Constituency at the University of Oslo

Article 3: Election of the Executive

- 3.1 All Members of ISU are entitled to vote, as well as all international students at the University of Oslo.
- 3.2 The Executive committee is elected at the start of every semester.
- 3.3 Any member, indicating his willingness to take the post if elected, can be nominated for an Executive position. Nominated candidates must either be present or have indicated their willingness to work in the Executive Board in written form to the General Assembly.
- 3.5 All elections for executive members shall be by secret ballot.
- 3.6 Nominations for each post and voting on each post will be done separately in the following order (as suggested, the order should not be binding): President, Vice-President, Secretary General, Finance Secretary, Social Affairs Secretary, Academics and Sports Secretary, Press Editor, Web-Master, Academic Review Chief Editor and other board members, if necessary.
- 3.7 If a post remains vacant after elections the Executive Committee may appoint a member for this position. Notice shall be given to all members after the appointment.
- 3.8 Executive Committee members can be removed from their position by a two-thirds majority during an Executive Committee meeting in case of:
- 3.8.1 Economic frauds (which will be reported to the police);
- 3.8.2 Actions contrary to the interests of ISU;
- 3.8.3 Failing to attend Executive Committee meetings on a regular basis.
- 3.9 If an Executive position becomes vacant after the removal or resignation of an Executive Committee member the Executive Committee may appoint a member for this position. Notice shall be given to all members after the appointment.
- 3.10 The election procedure can be changed by the election committee if considered appropriate. Changes are subject to the approval of the General Assembly.

Article 4: Obligations of the Executive Committee of the ISU UiO

4.1 General obligations of Members of the Executive Committee

- 4.1.1 All Executive Committee members shall further the objectives of ISU and assist in the conduct of the ISU activities if necessary.
- 4.1.2 ISU Executives are responsible for keeping and maintaining the ISU office and informing members when they may be contacted at the ISU office on a regular basis.
- 4.1.3 ISU Executive Committee members are responsible for taking initiative in proposing specific tasks and ensuring that they are carried out in furtherance of the Objectives of ISU
- 4.1.4 ISU Executive Committee members are obliged to attend Executive meetings. In case of absence they have to inform the President.

4.2 Obligations of the President

- 4.2.1 Representation of ISU in the Student Board of the University of Oslo.
- 4.2.2 Representation of ISU to local authorities and be ISU spokesperson.
- 4.2.3 Acting as chairperson at ISU executive meetings and General Assemblies.
- 4.2.4 Delegation of responsibilities.

4.3 Obligations of the Vice-President

- 4.3.1 Assisting the president in all listed duties as delegated by the president.
- 4.3.2 Functioning as President in the absence of the President. In this case the Vice-President will receive all rights and duties of the President.
- 4.3.3 Providing new students as soon as possible with information about ISU and ISU activities.
- 4.3.4 Representation of ISU Oslo at meetings of the National ISU.

4.4 Obligations of the Secretary General

- 4.4.1 Organising ISU meetings and keeping general ISU correspondence.
- 4.4.2 Writing the minutes of all meetings and distributing them to the Executive.
- 4.4.3 Maintaining an updated list of all ISU members.

4.5 Obligations of the Financial Secretary

- 4.5.1 Maintaining and controlling the finances of ISU.
- 4.5.2 Working on fund raising activities.
- 4.5.3 Writing comprehensive accounts and presenting them to the executive at the end of every semester.
- 4.5.4 Presenting the budget and the accounts at the General Assembly.

4.6 Obligations of the Social Affairs Secretary

- 4.6.1 Organising ISU's social activities.
- 4.6.2 Overseeing the running of the International Coffee Hour.
- 4.6.3 Representing ISU on issues relate to social activities.
- 4.6.4 Mediating with other organizations to arrange social activities for ISU.

4.7 Obligations of Sports and Academics Secretary

4.7.1 Being responsible for all academic and sports matters of ISU.

4.7.2 Organising academic and sports activities for ISU.

4.7.3 Representing ISU in such related matters.

4.8 Obligations of the Press Editor

4.8.1 Being responsible for all matters pertaining to the production and distribution of the ISU Newsletter.

4.8.2 Giving information on matters pertaining to ISU to the press after consultation with the Executive Committee.

4.9 Obligations of the Web Master

4.9.1 Being responsible for the maintenance and updating of ISU web site.

4.9.2 Assuming responsibility for the ISU mailing list.

4.9.3 Posting the ISU Newsletter on the website

4.10 Obligations of the Chief Managing Editor of the Academic Review of Norway (ARN)

4.10.1 Selecting an editorial board from: other ISU Branches, ISU UiO executive committee members, volunteers and from ISU Norway.

4.10.2 Assuming responsibility for the gathering and the selection of the articles to be published.

4.10.3 Assuming responsibility for the managing of editorial staff meetings to create the Review.

4.10.4 Upholding the statutes of the ARN.