

The constitution of “Danube-Networkers for Europe” (DANET)

Preamble

Danube Networkers for Europe (DANET) is an international umbrella association of education institutions, fostering education and science in the domains of lifelong learning, social participation and dialogue within the European generations, especially in the Danube countries. Thereby the European integration is to be stimulated, especially by activating experts to implement the European Commission’ Danube strategy in the area of education.

§ 1 Name, head office, financial year

1. The name of the association is Danube-Networkers for Europe, abbreviated DANET, subtitled Network for Learning in Later Life, Social Participation and Intergenerational Dialogue. After registration in the register of associations in Germany at the Local Court (Amtsgericht) of Ulm/Germany it will also bear the suffix e.V. The registration will be according to the rules of German Law.
2. The association has its first head office in Ulm/Donau, later on it depends on the committee’s decision.
3. The financial year is the same as the calendar year.
4. Official languages of the association are German and English.

§ 2 Integration, purpose of the association

1. DANET is a non-profit making association whose members aim to foster and develop innovative education strategies and programs by suitable measures on the regional, national and international level and open it for the public. The objective of the association is particularly focussed on promoting the Association member’s cooperation by providing digital information and communication tools. By internal counseling and qualification for members the common education interests and strategies will be fostered according to the National and European political programmes for Learning in Later Life, Social Participation and Intergenerational Dialogue within the legal means for non-profit making organisations. In order to pursue these goals on a European level, founding of associations with similar goals in the particular European countries shall be encouraged. Furthermore DANET is able to act as the responsible body of international non-profit projects, allowing the members to act as auxiliary persons according to § 57 AO (Abgabenordnung) German Fiscal Code. DANET strives for members’ cooperation with regard to content in order to pursue international non-profit projects.

2. DANET pursues this non-profit making aim in Germany and in Europe, especially in the countries of the Danube region.
3. The association shall only pursue aims which are directly of a non-profit making nature, as defined in the section "Purposes Eligible for Tax Relief" of the Fiscal Code of 1977 (sections 51 to 68 AO).
4. The association shall not be active in its own interests and shall primarily not pursue any economic aims of its own.
5. The association's funds may only be used for the purposes set out in the constitution. Members of the association shall receive no donations from the association's funds. No party shall benefit from expenditure which is alien to the purpose of the corporation or from an unreasonably high remuneration.

§ 3 Membership

1. Any legal entity or natural person in function of expert may become an active member of the association if their main or occasional occupation or any other activity of theirs is related to the targets of DANET. Details are fixed by the intern rules of procedure.
2. The association may have natural persons or legal entities as its sustaining and honorary members. These members shall be proposed by the committee and ratified by the general assembly of members. These members shall not have voting rights.
3. An application to join the association must be made in writing.
4. The committee has the absolute discretion to approve an application to join the association. The committee must not justify a refusal.

§ 4 Resigning from the association

1. A member may only resign from the association on 31st December of the relevant calendar year. Notice must be given in writing and received by the committee 3 months before the end of the calendar year.
2. Members who have resigned from the association shall have no claim to a share in the assets of the association.

§ 5 Exclusion from the association

1. A member who acts culpably and grossly against the interests of the association may be excluded from the association.
2. Before being excluded from the association, the member concerned must be allowed to put his, her or its case. Should this member submit a written declaration, this declaration must be read out at the general assembly of members.
3. Exclusion from the association can only be decided by the general assembly of members with a 2/3 majority.
4. The resolution pertaining to exclusion from the association with appropriate reasons must be justified on the member in writing.

§ 6 Membership dues

1. The sum of the membership dues shall be determined by the general assembly of members.
2. The membership dues shall be payable on 1st January of every year.
3. Members who are more than one year in arrears with their membership dues may be excluded by a 2/3 majority of the committee.

§ 7 Agents of the association

1. The agents of the association are the general assembly of members and the committee.
2. Further agents may be appointed by virtue of a resolution of the general assembly of members.

§ 8 The committee

1. The committee conducts the affairs of the association in an honorary capacity.
2. The committee shall consist of the first chairperson, the second chairperson, the treasurer (third chairperson), the general secretary and three delegates.

3. The first chairperson, the second chairperson and the treasurer can only be dismissed from office by an extraordinary general assembly of members.
4. The members of the committee shall be elected by the general assembly of members for a period of two years and by secret ballot if requested. All members of the committee shall remain in office until new elections are held, even if their term of office has expired.
5. The committee's resolutions shall be based on section 28 of the German Civil Code. If there is a parity of votes the chairperson shall give the casting vote.
6. The committee should meet at least 4 to 5 times per year in real or virtual way. A meeting of the committee should correspond to the general assembly of members. Decisions must be confirmed by mail or other written form latest two weeks after the meeting.
7. The association shall be represented in court and outside court by the first chairperson and by the second chairperson. Each of them shall be entitled to represent the association alone. They shall be bound by the resolution of the committee.
8. The committee shall formulate a bounding work paper and rules of internal procedure. It sets up a head office, which is directed by the first chairperson.
9. The committee is responsible for all affairs which are not assigned to other agents of the association.

§ 9 The general assembly of members

1. The general assembly of members is exclusively responsible for
 - Resolution of constitution amendments by 2/3 of the votes,
 - Election and dismissal of committee members
 - Appointment of two accounts auditors for 2 years each,
 - Determining membership dues,
 - Honorary members appointment,
 - Admission of sustaining members and excluding a member and
 - dissolving the association by 3/4 of the votes.
2. An ordinary general assembly of members must be held at least every two years.

3. A general assembly of members must be called in writing and announcing the agenda by giving a period of notice of at least 4 weeks.
4. The committee has to call an extraordinary general assembly of members within 3 months if demanded by the associations' interest or if at least 1/3 of the members send a written request to this effect to the committee, stating the reasons.

§ 10 Procedural rules for the general assembly of members

1. The committee shall be responsible for inviting and determining the agenda. The general assembly of members shall be presided over by a chairman, selected by the attendant members.
2. The general assembly of members has the quorum if the calling of the meeting was orderly, independent of the number of attendant members.
3. The general assembly of members determines the agenda.
4. Elections and resolutions shall be passed by show of hands. Secret voting is mandatory based on the motion of a quarter of the general assembly of members.
5. When candidates are being elected to the committee, the candidate who obtains the largest number of votes shall win the vote. Other decisions shall require a simple majority.
6. However, should the subject of the vote be the exclusion of a member and a resolution of a constitution amendment a 2/3 majority shall be required.
7. Abstentions shall not be counted.
8. Every member has one vote. Up to 2 votes can be transferred in written form to another member. The committee has to be informed in writing before the meeting about proxy voting and the delegate
9. Minutes must be kept on the general assemblies of members and are to be signed by the keeper of the minutes and by the person who chaired the meeting.
10. Resolutions can be made in written circulation procedure without observing a period of notice or other formalities if all members of the association are in agreement.

§ 11 Dissolution of the association and the association's assets

1. In the event of dissolution of the association the officiating members of the committee shall be the liquidators.
2. If the association is dissolved or if its purposes should no longer be eligible for tax relief, its assets are to be transferred to the Baden-Württemberg-Stiftung gGmbH to directly and exclusively foster charitable projects especially in the Danube region.

The following legal entities and persons shall sign as founding members (see page 7).

Ulm, den 14.03.2014

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