

Young Königswinter Alumni e.V. Articles of Association

(English translation, not legally binding)

§1 Name, legal form and registered office of the association

- (1) The association shall bear the name 'Young Königswinter Alumni', with the suffix 'e.V.' following registration.
- (2) The association shall be entered in the register of associations at the Berlin Charlottenburg Local Court as an association with legal capacity.
- (3) The registered office of the association is Berlin.

§2 Purpose of the Association

- (1) The association pursues the aims of promoting an international outlook and the spirit of international understanding, fostering education, public and vocational training, the general promotion of democratic government, and the promotion of civic engagement. In particular, the association's purpose is to foster, deepen and develop friendship between the Federal Republic of Germany and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and their respective citizens at all levels of government and society, including civil society.
- (2) The association's activities centre on organising lecture evenings, seminars, workshops and other events that serve the purpose set out in paragraph 1, in Germany and the United Kingdom, and, in exceptional cases, in other locations. Participation in these events is, in principle, open to everyone.
- (3) The Association may take further measures that serve to achieve the objectives set out in paragraph 1.
- (4) The Association's tasks also include raising the funds necessary to fulfil the objectives set out in paragraphs 1 to 3, promoting increased public and private support for its objectives, and publicising relevant projects and results.
- (5) The Association's activities are not restricted to Germany.
- (6) The Association promotes and fosters cooperation with the German-British Society e.V.

§3 Tax relief

- (1) The Association pursues exclusively and directly charitable purposes within the meaning of the German Fiscal Code. The Association acts altruistically; it does not primarily pursue its own economic interests.
 - (2) No person may benefit from expenditure unrelated to the Association's purpose or from disproportionately high remuneration.
 - (3) The Association's funds may only be used for the purposes set out in the Articles of Association. Members shall not receive any payments from the Association's funds in their capacity as members.
- Donations of money or in kind shall not be refunded either upon the dissolution of the Association or upon a member's resignation.

§4 Income and expenditure of the Association; audit

- (1) The association's income consists of
 1. donations,

2. grants from private, public or church bodies,
3. other income.

2) Donations and other contributions to the Association which, insofar as permitted by law, are earmarked for a specific sub-purpose designated by the donor, shall be used exclusively for that purpose. If no such earmarking exists, the Association is free to decide which of the sub-purposes referred to in paragraph 1 it actually wishes to pursue. In particular, it is permitted to make a selection and to temporarily refrain from pursuing individual specific purposes.

(3) The Association's income and expenditure must be recorded in accordance with the principles of commercial accounting. At the end of each financial year, annual accounts must be drawn up in accordance with the provisions of commercial law (balance sheet and profit and loss account).

(4) The financial year is the calendar year.

(5) The accounts must be audited by two auditors elected by the General Meeting. The auditors must not be members of the Executive Committee. Discharge may only be granted to the Executive Committee for the relevant financial year if the auditors have raised no objections. The General Meeting may resolve to appoint a chartered accountant or chartered accountants to audit the annual accounts in place of the auditors.

§5 Members

(1) Only natural persons who have taken part in a Jung Königswinter Conference organised by the Deutsch-Britische Gesellschaft e.V. may become members of the Association. In addition, the Executive Committee may, by a simple majority, extend an invitation to become a member to other persons.

(2) The Executive Committee shall decide on the admission of a member upon application, exercising its discretion in accordance with its duties. No reasons need be given to applicants who are not admitted.

(3) Membership shall cease

1. upon death,
2. upon resignation,
3. upon expulsion.

(4) Resignation from the Association must be notified in writing by the member to the Executive Committee. It must be given with three months' notice and may only be effected at the end of each financial year.

(5) The Association's work is based on the commitment of all its members to the free and democratic basic order. The Association resolutely opposes all extremist tendencies. The Association offers membership only to those persons who subscribe to these principles. Members of extremist organisations of any political persuasion, as well as members of organisations with racist and xenophobic aims, such as the NPD and its regional associations, may not become members of the Association.

(6) A member who is to be expelled shall be given the opportunity to submit a statement, either orally or in writing. If the member fails to take up this opportunity despite being requested to do so on two occasions and within a period of one month, the Executive Committee may resolve to expel

the member. If the member submits a statement, the expulsion shall be decided by the General Meeting after it has taken note of that statement.

§6 Rights and obligations of members

- (1) Members of the Association are entitled to attend the general meeting and events organised by the Association for its members. This does not affect the Executive Committee's right to invite, at its discretion and in accordance with its duties, only a selection of members and guests to events held as part of the Association's projects.
- (2) Members are called upon to support the Association in fulfilling its objectives.
- (3) No membership fees are charged to members. Voluntary contributions are possible and encouraged.

§7 Patron and Honorary Members

- (1) Individuals who appear suitable to champion the association's objectives in an outstanding manner may, with their consent and upon the Executive Committee's recommendation, be appointed as patron by the General Meeting. They need not be members of the association.
- (2) The patron is exempt from all the obligations of membership but enjoys all the rights of membership.
- (3) Individuals who have rendered outstanding services to the association may, with their consent and upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee, be appointed as honorary members by the General Meeting. They need not be members of the association.
- (4) Honorary members are exempt from all the obligations of membership but enjoy all the rights of membership.

§8 Governing Bodies of the Association

- (1) The governing bodies of the Association are
 1. the General Meeting,
 2. the Executive Committee.
- (2) The Association may establish advisory bodies to fulfil its tasks, employ assistants to carry out administrative work, or delegate tasks in whole or in part to third parties.

§9 General Meeting

- (1) All members of the Association with voting rights are members of the General Meeting.
- (2) The General Meeting shall, in particular, decide on
 1. the election of the Executive Committee,
 2. the approval of the annual accounts,
 3. the discharge of the Executive Committee,
 4. the removal of a member of the Executive Committee,
 5. the election of the auditors or the statutory auditor,
 6. amendments to the Association's Articles of Association,

7. the dissolution of the Association.

(3) An ordinary general meeting shall be convened by the Chair or a Deputy Chair as required, but at least once a year, by giving notice in writing or by email, setting out the agenda and allowing a notice period of at least two weeks. Extraordinary general meetings shall be convened if the Executive Committee or at least one-third of the association's members request this in writing, stating the purpose and reasons. The General Meeting shall be chaired by the Chairperson. If the Chairperson is unable to attend, the meeting shall be chaired by a Deputy Chairperson; otherwise, by another member of the Executive Committee. Should no member of the Executive Committee be present, the meeting shall appoint a chairperson.

(4) The general meeting may also be held entirely online or as a hybrid meeting (a combination of an in-person and an online meeting). The Executive Committee shall decide on the format of the meeting and inform the members of this in the invitation to the General Meeting. If a hybrid or virtual meeting is convened, the notice of meeting must also specify how members may exercise their rights by means of electronic communication. Furthermore, the Executive Committee must ensure that, through appropriate access restrictions, only members of the association may take part in votes during the meeting.

(5) The General Meeting shall constitute a quorum regardless of the number of members present, provided that it has been duly convened. Members may be represented by another member holding a written proxy.

(6) The General Meeting shall pass resolutions by a majority of the votes cast. In the event of a tie, the motion shall be deemed rejected. Resolutions concerning amendments to the Articles of Association, the dissolution of the Association or the early removal of a member of the Executive Committee shall be passed by a two-thirds majority of the votes cast.

(7) Resolutions of the members may, upon a decision by the Executive Committee, also be passed by written circular resolution – including by email. Paragraph 6 shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

(8) Minutes shall be drawn up of the results of General Meetings and of resolutions passed by written circular resolution – including by email – and shall be signed by the Chair, forwarded to all members and approved by the next General Meeting.

§ 10 Executive Committee

(1) The Executive Committee shall consist of between four and seven members, namely the Chair of the Association and between three and six Deputy Chairs, who shall elect a Secretary and a Treasurer from amongst themselves. In addition, at the request of the Executive Committee, the General Meeting may elect up to three substitute members, who may attend Executive Committee meetings without the right to vote and who shall take the place of any Executive Committee member who resigns. The Chair and the Deputy Chairs, including the Secretary and the Treasurer, form the Executive Board.

(2) The members of the Executive Committee are elected by the General Meeting for a term lasting until the second ordinary General Meeting following their appointment. Should a member of the Executive Committee resign before the end of this term, a substitute member shall take their place for the remainder of the term of office of the outgoing member. If the Chair steps down prematurely, a new Chair shall be elected from among the members of the Executive Committee – supplemented by the member who has taken their place – who shall assume the duties of office in accordance with the Articles of Association until the next General Meeting.

- (3) Unless the general meeting decides otherwise, the members referred to in paragraph 1 shall be elected jointly. Elections shall be held by a show of hands, unless 10 per cent of the members of the association present request a written ballot.
- (4) Immediately after their election, the elected members of the Executive Committee shall elect from amongst themselves a Chairperson, Deputy Chairpersons, a Secretary and a Treasurer.
- (5) Provided that the maximum number of members specified in paragraph 1 has not been reached, the Executive Committee may co-opt further persons to serve until the next General Meeting.
- (6) The Executive Committee manages the Association, conducts its business and implements the resolutions of the General Meeting. The Association is represented in and out of court by a member of the Executive Committee.
- (7) The Executive Committee shall meet as required. Meetings shall be convened by the Chair or, if the Chair is unable to do so, by a Deputy Chair. A notice period of one week must be observed, unless all members of the Executive Committee waive this requirement. It is not necessary to provide notice of the agenda. The Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum if at least three members of the Executive Committee are present. Proposed resolutions shall be deemed adopted if a majority of the members of the Executive Committee agree. The Chairperson chairs the Executive Committee meeting; in their absence or if they are unable to attend, a deputy shall do so.
- (8) Provided no member of the Executive Committee objects, resolutions may be passed by written circulation – including by email.
- (9) The Executive Committee shall decide on the measures the Association must take to fulfil its purpose.
- (10) Minutes shall be drawn up of the Executive Committee's resolutions; these shall be signed by the chairperson and the minute-taker and brought to the attention of all members of the Executive Committee.
- (11) The members of the Executive Committee serve the Association on a voluntary basis. Any out-of-pocket expenses incurred may be reimbursed.
- (12) The Executive Committee may adopt rules of procedure.

§11 Advisory bodies

- (1) The Association may establish advisory bodies by resolution of the Executive Committee.
- (2) The resolution shall set out the tasks, composition and working methods of the body.
- (3) Members of these bodies need not be members of the Association.
- (4) The role of these bodies is to advise and support the Association and its governing bodies. Decision-making powers on behalf of the Association may not be delegated to these bodies.

§ 12 Dissolution of the Association

- (1) If, in accordance with the wishes of the members, the pursuit of the Association's objectives and the activities serving its purpose are to be discontinued, the Association shall be dissolved.
- (2) The resolution to dissolve the Association shall only be effective if a liquidator is appointed at the same time.

(3) In the event of the dissolution of the Association or the cessation of tax-privileged purposes, the remaining assets shall pass to the Königswinter Foundation, Bonn, which shall use them directly and exclusively for charitable, benevolent or ecclesiastical purposes.