

# Statute of the European Association of Neuro-Linguistic Programming

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## Preamble

The EANLP has, as the European association for professional communication, set the goal of creating a foundation for national NLP associations that enables common growth, quality assurance and further development. The statute should, on the one hand, render the ample scope for all members and, on the other, set the rules of interaction. Moreover, it provides a space for various needs to organise and communicate common interests that all originate from the fundamental idea of appreciating the humanistic view and the development potential of society.

Like this, the national NLP associations recognize their societal responsibility of promoting and developing NLP on a European level and ensuring the mutual exchange between national associations. The EANLP will, in that sense, contribute to a future-oriented, effective and efficient development of NLP on both the national and the European level.

## §1 Name and headquarters of the association

- 1) The association bears the name “European Association of NLP” with the acronym “EANLP”, hereafter simply referred to as association.
- 2) Headquarters of the association are based in Berlin.
- 3) The association is registered at the Registry of Associations
- 4) The association is subject to German law.

- 5) The financial year is the calendar year.

## **§2 Purpose and duties**

- 1) The association serves science, research and education on the basis of the communication model Neuro-Linguistic programming (NLP) and the dissemination of NLP to appropriate application areas. The communication model is used in all societal fields, especially, pedagogy, adult education, therapy, health care and provision, business and industry. It aims at personality development by promoting perception processes, behavioural diversity and clarity of goals.
- 2) Furthermore, the association establishes a European basis where members can exchange knowledge about the communication model NLP. This includes specifically the quality assurance on NLP trainings and the further development of NLP, especially its scientific aspects.
- 3) The association represents overarching and common topics and interests that comply with the association's purpose on the European level against politics, society and European institutions.
- 4) The association is not directed towards an economic business and its individual members' commercial interests.
- 5) The association's duties are realized by:
  - a. the research on and development of NLP, of academic teaching, of scientific exploration in collaboration and exchange with university faculties and other European institutions and organisations, as well as the prompt disclosure of all research results to the public on a European level and general public relations work,
  - b. the investigation of the utilization of NLP and its effectiveness, efficiency and compliance to ethnic norms,
  - c. the establishment of systems that guarantee continuous quality improvement of NLP-trainings, as well as the establishment and development of uniform European guidelines for education and trainings to guarantee high European quality standards at the application of NLP,
  - d. the promotion of innovation of the communication model NLP,
  - e. the support of European teamwork between members,
  - f. the collaboration with relevant bodies of society that deal with the topics pedagogy, adult education, therapy, health care and provision, training, personality development, business and others.
- 6) Participation at opinion-forming events on the European level, such as conferences, congresses, trade fairs and other events.
- 7) Information and consultation of member associations following §3 and their members about European funding programmes as well as collaboration with the granting European institutions.

## **§3 Membership**

- 1) Types of membership
  - a. The association has regular and associate members.
  - b. Regular members can be: European NLP-associations, that follow non-profit-oriented activities and do not act upon their own commercial interests.
  - c. The founding members are regular and associate members. The following are regular members:

- DVNLP, Lindenstraße 19, 10969 Berlin, represented by Dr. Jens Tomas and Sönke Tegtmeier,
- AVNLPP, Elzenhof 22, 2382 EV Zoeterwoude, Netherlands, represented by Annemarie Tjerkstra and Ger von Marion,
- SWILL-NLP, Rosenstraße 5, 8630 Rütli, Switzerland, represented by Eva Risler, Judith Lächler and Toni Müller,
- ARONLP, Str. Erou GH. Rusu, bl. 4. Sc. D, ap 15 RO-600036, Bacau 600036 Romania, represented by Carola Müller and Dr. Marius Catiche,
- ÖDV-NLP, Plüddemanngasse 18/38, A-8010 Graz, Austria, represented by Prof. Dr. Maximilian Ganster and Babak Kaweh,
- APROCEP, Avenida Joao Crisostomo No. 30, 5 Andar 1050-127 Lisboa, Portugal, represented by Karina Milheiros and Fridolin Kimmig

d. And the following are associate members:

- Dr. Jens Tomas, Wiesengrund 42, 48308 Senden, Germany
- Sönke Tegtmeier, Greifswalder Str. 16, 16515 Oranienburg, Germany
- Prof. Dr. Maximilian Ganster, Plüddemanngasse 18/38, 8010 Graz, Austria
- Babak Kaweh, Penzingerstrasse 29-31/3/2, 1140 Wien, Austria
- Judith Lächler, Bächenmoosstrasse 18, 8816 Hirzel, Switzerland
- Toni Müller, Jucher 64, 3036 Detligen, Switzerland
- Eva Risler, Kirchbergstrasse 4, 8635 Dürnten, Switzerland
- Ger van Marion, Varelseweg 74, NL 8077 RA Hushorst, Netherlands
- Annemarie Tjerkstra, Westerstraat 19d, 1015LT Amsterdam, Netherlands
- Karina Milheiros, Rua de Arroios 60-1, 1150-055 Lisboa, Portugal
- Fridolin Kimmig, Übelwasenweg 6, 77709 Wolfach, Germany
- Carola Müller, Wiescherstrasse 55, 44805 Bochum, Germany
- Dr. Marius Catiche, Prinzenstrasse 51, 41065 Mönchengladbach, Germany

e. The associate members are exempted from contribution obligations.

f. Associate members can be: natural persons, legal persons, as well as public corporations which have an interest in the association's purpose and want to support the association

g. At general meetings, regular members are represented by two authorized delegates. Together with two deputies, these are appointed by every member state and communicated in a written form to the committee. At least one of the delegates has to belong to the executive organ of the respective member association.

h. Associate member can be authorized to participate in general meetings. However, they do not have any vote.

## 2) Admission of members

- a. The general assembly decides on applications for admission of regular and associate members.
- b. The admission of a member requires an application.
- c. Requirements for membership are the approval of the current EANLP curricula, proof that the applying national member is fulfilling the legal prerequisites and carries the status of an association or another corresponding institution, approval of the ethical code of ethics of DVWO e.V. and evidence that the member at the national level comprises at least 50 regular members.
- d. The admission procedure is regulated by the association's rules of procedure.
- e. There is no claim for admission. The applicant has no legal remedy against a rejection decision.

## 3) Termination of membership

- a. Membership ends with:
  - i. A written letter of resignation received at the committee three months before the end of the current calendar year,
  - ii. For important reasons on application of the board of the association followed by a decision of the general assembly and a 3/4 majority of the attending delegates which, at the same time, represent the simple majority of the members of the association. The member to be excluded has no and is not considered in the counting.
- b. With the termination of the membership, all claims of the membership relation extinguish, while the association is further able to demand receivables. Claims of restitutions of contributions, investments in kind and donations are excluded.

#### **§4 Bodies**

The organs of the association are

- 1) The general assembly
- 2) The board of the association

##### 1) The general assembly

- a. The general assembly is the highest decision-making body.
- b. It consists of two representatives of each member, each authorized to represent, or one delegate authorized by such a representative in sub-authorization, who shall belong to the member.
- c. Delegates of the regular members have a vote.

##### Tasks

- a. The tasks of the general assembly are in particular:
  - i. the election of the board of the association,
  - ii. passing of resolutions on the appointment of auditors and the discharge of the board of the association from liability of the preceding financial year,
  - iii. passing of resolutions on article amendments, the rules of procedure of the association and if necessary of the general meeting as well as the dissolution of the association,
  - iv. passing of resolutions about contributions,
  - v. instructing of the committee to set up an expert commission.
- b. The general assembly meets at least once every year. Invitations are to be sent out at least four weeks in advance and need to include a draft agenda.
- c. Agenda proposals need to be submitted to the board of the association at least 14 days prior to the general meeting.
- d. The general meeting is called in by the committee and is chaired by the president or a chosen assembly director; proceedings and decisions must be recorded in written minutes which need to be signed by the president or the chosen assembly director and the minute taker.
- e. Extraordinary meetings are to be called in if the association's interest deems it as necessary or if at least 1/3 of the members convene it in written form explaining the

purpose and reasons for the meeting; in that case, the invitation period must be at least ten calendar days.

- f. At general meetings, the committee attends with at least one member. The president should be present.

#### Decision-making

- a. Unless the statute requires otherwise, decisions are made on  $\frac{3}{4}$  majority of casted votes.
  - b. The general assembly has a quorum when  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the member organisations are present.
  - c. If less than  $\frac{3}{4}$  of member organisations are attending another general meeting can be called in with the same invitation one hour later. That general assembly then has regardless the number of voters a quorum. The invitation needs to make an explicit reference to this.
  - d. Every member has two votes in the voting, one for each delegate/deputy.
  - e. Changes in the statute require a  $\frac{3}{4}$  majority of attending delegates and at the same time a simple majority of members.
- 2) Board of the association
- a. The board of the association consists of a president and a minimum of two deputies. They form the committee.
  - b. The chairman is the president, the deputies the vice-presidents.
  - c. The association is represented by the president or a vice-president. Every member of the committee is authorized to represent on its own.
  - d. The election procedure of the committee is regulated in the rules of procedure of the association.
  - e. Only people which are considered honorary or founding members or are members of the member organisations, can be asked to join the committee.
  - f. The committee is appointed by the general assembly for a duration of four years.
  - g. Every member of the committee can be dismissed by a  $\frac{3}{4}$  majority of the members.
  - h. The committee remains in office until its re-election.
  - i. All legal transactions that commit the association on a permanent basis and exceed a specific amount determined annually by the general assembly require the approval of the general assembly.
  - j. The committee gives itself rules of procedure.
  - k. The committee lead the current transactions of the association, as long as the general assembly does not claim them.
  - l. The board of the association is responsible for all tasks that are not specifically assigned to a different body (subsidiary jurisdiction). Within the budget plan, the board of the association has freedom of action.

#### **§5 Expert commission**

- 1) The association can establish expert commissions to achieve its goals. The establishment and dissolution are carried out by the committee.
- 2) Expert commissions can be appointed by the committee to support the association by making suggestions in particular thematic areas or by doing some groundwork.
- 3) The committee is responsible for the supervision of the expert commissions.

- 4) The work of the expert commissions is regulated in independent rules of procedure. These rules of procedure are prepared by the committee.
- 5) To be set up as expert commission are: research, certification, interdisciplinary relationships, admission of new members, health

#### **§6 Advisory board**

- 1) The association has until further notice no advisory board. An advisory board can be established at any time through a resolution of the general assembly.
- 2) The establishment of an advisory board requires by way of derogation from §4 general assembly, merely a simple majority of members.

#### **§7 Branch office and management**

- 1) The association's business is managed with the support of a branch office. It is established by the president. When established, it is transferred from the former president to the following president.
- 2) The committee can appoint a director for the execution of transactions. An expense allowance is not foreseen for this task.
- 3) If a member offers its national branch office for the execution of transaction, the member receives an appropriate expense allowance which is determined annually by the general assembly.

#### **§8 Protocols**

- 1) The resolutions of the general meetings and of the committee are recorded in writing, sent to the members and made available for inspection to the members of the branch office. Official languages are English, German and French. In case of different interpretations, also of this statute, the official translation of an appointed and sworn translator counts.
- 2) The written record of the committee meeting is signed by the president in attendance of his or her deputy.

#### **§9 Financing**

- 1) The association is financed by membership fees, fee incomes from the awarding of European seals, other contributions and donations.
- 2) The amount of the membership fee is decided by the general assembly.
- 3) To cover the additional administrative costs at the admission of a new regular member, an admission fee can be charged. This is set by the general assembly.

#### **§10 Cash audit and accounting control**

Cash management and accounting of the association is checked every year by two cash auditors chosen by the general assembly every two years. The cash auditors report back to the general assembly with a report and propose the discharge of the committee when cash management has been carried out properly.

### **§11 Tax relief**

- 1) The association exclusively and directly pursues charitable purposes as specified in the section “tax-deductible purposes” of the tax code. The association is non-profit-making; it is primarily not directed towards its own commercial interests.
- 2) The means of the association can only be used for statutory purposes. The members do not receive any payments from the funds of the association in their capacity as members. When withdrawing from the association, they cannot make any claims on the assets of the association. No person can make expenditures that do not correspond with the purposes of the association and will be favoured through disproportionately high allowances.

### **§12 Neutrality**

The association and its goals are politically and denominationally neutral.

Membership in organisations that contradict the constitution or human rights – especially human dignity – expels members from the membership in the EANLP.

### **§13 Prohibition on favouring**

- 1) Neither members of the association nor third parties can make expenditures that do not correspond with the purposes of the association or be favoured through disproportionately high allowances.
- 2) The work at the association’s bodies is considered voluntary work. A loss of earnings or a compensation for disadvantages is only granted through resolutions of the general assembly. In doing so, maximum taxable rates cannot be exceeded.
- 3) All expenditures of the association are generally carried out by the branch office. Expenditures that are proven necessary to fulfil the statutory obligations of members of the bodies such as travel costs, accommodation costs, etc. are reimbursed by the branch office.

### **§14 Disqualification**

- 1) A member can be disqualified
  - a. if the association member is, despite warning, three months in arrears with the payment of the annual fee,
  - b. in the case of gross and repeated infringement of the statute of the association or the contract with the association,
  - c. in the case of harmful and association damaging behaviour inside and outside the association.
- 2) A  $\frac{3}{4}$  majority of the general assembly decides upon disqualification. Prior to the decision, the member receives the possibility to comment on the reasons within a period of four months from access.
- 3) The resolution on disqualification including the reasons for disqualification is to be handed to the member in form of a registered letter.
- 4) Appeals to the decision can be made within a period of four months from access through an arbitration body.

### **§15 Statute amendments**

- 1) Statute amendment, changes in the association's purpose and its dissolution are decided by the general assembly. Proposals to statute amendments, changes in purpose and dissolution need to be fed to the voting members at least two weeks prior to the meeting.
- 2) To make a resolution at least a  $\frac{3}{4}$  majority of the attending voting members is necessary, unless the statute requires otherwise.
- 3) Amendments and additions to the statute that are required by the responsible registry authority or the tax office are implemented by the board of the association and do not require a resolution of the general assembly. Members need to be informed about changes in the following invitation to the general meeting at the latest.

### **§16 Dissolution of the association**

- 1) The dissolution of the association can only be decided in a general meeting summoned for that purpose.
- 2) The summoning of such a meeting can only happen if
  - a. The committee has decided so with a  $\frac{3}{4}$  majority of all its members, or
  - b. A third of the voting members of the association has demanded so in written form.
- 3) Such a general assembly is competent to make a resolution if at least half of the voting members pursuing §3 is represented by fully authorized delegates. A dissolution can only be decided on a  $\frac{3}{4}$  majority of voting members. If less than half of the voting members are present at the first meeting, a second meeting is to be summoned within 10 days which is competent to make a resolution with a  $\frac{3}{4}$  majority of the voting members.
- 4) If this majority cannot be reached, the members that have voted for a dissolution receive an extraordinary right to withdraw which pursuing the period stated in §3 (termination of membership) (1) a) sets them free. The members who voted against a dissolution are free to choose the procedure pursuing §3 (termination of membership) (1) b); the wish for dissolution is, therefore, an important reason. In that case, a  $\frac{3}{4}$  majority of the members is sufficient for the dissolution.
- 5) In case of dissolution of the association, the association's assets are transferred to a legal person under public law or to another corporation with a recognized charitable status which has to directly and solely use it for charitable purposes and for the promotion of further education. It will be proposed by the committee and decided by simple majority of the general assembly. If no agreement can be reached the committee appoints an independent arbitrator.

### **§17 Final provisions and entry into force**

- 1) Through resolutions, the committee has, instead of the general assembly, the power to add changes and additions to the statute if they are deemed necessary in the registration procedure and are required by the registry court or a different authority. These need to comply with the fundamental idea of the statute.
- 2) The first business year begins in divergence from § 1 with the statute's entry into force until the 31.12 of the following year.

- 3) Should some clauses of this statute be invalid, it will not have any impact on the effectiveness of the remaining clauses of the statute.
- 4) This statute enters into force with the passing of the resolution.

Established and decided on 17.01.2009

Amended on 29.10.2017