



The Statutes of BETA Europe

Bringing Europeans Together Association Europe A.I.S.B.L.

No. d'entreprise: 0723991964

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Preamble

WHEREAS the ‘Bringing Europeans Together’ Association, (BETA e.V.) is an independent and non-political international organisation of young Europeans, founded in Mainz, Germany,

RECALLING that the aims of BETA are to foster mutual understanding and cooperation between young Europeans and to contribute to the promotion of European values;

CONSCIOUS that BETA e.V. has continually expanded international relations with partners, both inside and outside the European Union, by making Model European Union (hereinafter ‘MEU’) a recognised and respected international format,

REALISING that within the network of BETA e.V. there are several national associations willing to go further in strengthening cooperation and creating more opportunities for their members,

CONVINCED that, in order to address the demands to broaden and improve the international educational aspects of MEU, a new European, federal structure of the Association is required,

The Members of the European network led by Bringing Europeans Together Association, e.V., composed by BETA e.V., BETA Bulgaria, BETA Czech Republic, BETA Estonia, BETA France, BETA Greece, BETA Italia, BETA Poland, BETA Portugal, BETA Scotland, BETA Slovakia, BETA Ukraine BETA Deutschland, BETA Spain, BETA Netherlands, BETA Serbia and BETA Macedonia, meeting in the Federal Task Force, hereby decide to adopt the following Statutes, in order to establish a new federal structure aiming to govern their future relations, BETA Europe.

The Statutes

General Provisions

Article 1: Denomination

- 1) In accordance with the provisions of the Belgian law of 27th of June 1921, an international non-profit association (A.I.S.B.L) called “Bringing Europeans Together Association, BETA Europe”, abbreviated to “BETA Europe”, is constituted.
- 2) All acts, invoices, announcements, publications and other documents issued by the Association must mention the association’s name immediately preceded or followed by these written words legibly and fully spelled out “association internationale sans but lucratif” [international non-profit association] or the acronym “A.I.S.B.L.”, as well as the address of the Association's headquarters.

Article 2: Seat

- 1) The registered headquarters of the association are established in Schaerbeek (1030 Brussels), Rue de la Luzerne 60.
- 2) The association’s headquarters can be transferred elsewhere in Belgium, in compliance with the legislation on the use of languages, by simple decision of the General Assembly, which will be published in the Annexes to the Belgian Monitor.
- 3) Headquarters can be created, in Belgium or abroad, by the decision of the General Assembly.

Article 3: Fiscal Year

- 1) The fiscal year of the Association begins on 1st January and ends on 31st December of each calendar year.

Article 4: Aims

- 1) BETA Europe is a non-political, independent, non-profit association, the aims of which are to foster mutual understanding and cooperation between young Europeans and to contribute to the promotion of European ideals in accordance with the values of the Council of Europe and the European Union.

Article 5: Activities

- 1) The main activities of BETA Europe shall be:
 - a) the organisation of political simulations for educational purposes at local, regional and European level, which reflect the functioning of the EU institutions and its legislative procedures,
 - b) the support of its Members through seminars and events as well as conducting remote advisory assistance to implement the Model European Union (hereinafter 'MEU') format,

- c) the participation in international events in the field of youth education and European values,
- d) the promotion of projects which present fair and transparent information regarding European integration.

Structure, Members and Observers

Article 6: Federal and Local Structure

- 1) To achieve its aims and activities, BETA Europe and its affiliated organisations (hereinafter 'BETA Network') shall be organised on two levels: national and supranational.
- 2) On the national level, the BETA Network shall be organised in National Branches which represent BETA Europe for local and national events. Right to represent does not include the right to undertake liability in the name of BETA Europe. Right to undertake liability may only be granted to a National Branch by the European Management Board.
- 3) On the supranational level, BETA Europe is represented by the European Management Board.

Article 7: The Documents

- 1) The documents of BETA Europe are:
 - a) The Statutes,
 - b) The Rules of the Association.
- 2) The Statutes lay down the basic principles governing the functioning of the Association and are in compliance with relevant law, and are binding upon the Association.
- 3) The Statutes are amended and changed in accordance with the procedure described in Article 24 of the Statutes.
- 4) If there is a conflict between the provisions of the Statutes and the Rules of the Association, the Statutes shall prevail.
- 5) The Rules of the Association are to be read in conjunction with the Statutes and are binding upon the Association.
- 6) The purpose of the Rules of the Association is to complement the Statutes and to provide guidance on the execution of the Statutes. The Rules of the Association contains information on the Association's working methods, internal procedures and its best practices.
- 7) The Rules of the Association are drafted by the European Management Board, after a consultation of the Board of Trustees. The Rules of Association can be amended by the European Management Board or by the National Branches. The amending procedure shall take place on the General Assembly meetings as described in Article 23.

- 8) The Rules of the Association can be amended at the General Assembly meetings provided there is a two-thirds majority of the attending or represented National Branches of the Association.

Article 8: Membership

- 1) Membership of BETA Europe exists through Membership of a National Association.
- 2) Membership in the National Association shall be linked to the permanent residency of the natural person.
- 3) Associations may be part of BETA Europe as either Observers or Members.
- 4) To become a Member of BETA Europe, an association should apply first as Observer.
- 5) An informal group can apply to become directly a Member of BETA Europe in accordance with Article 10 (3-4).
- 6) An individual might apply for a Membership in accordance with Article 11.

Article 9: Observers

- 1) To become an Observer of BETA Europe, an association must be registered in accordance with its respective national legislation as non-profit, non-governmental organization.
- 2) The requirements to become an Observer shall be as follows:
 - a) submission of a written application to the European Management Board in which the National Organisation states that it supports the aims and activities of BETA Europe,
 - b) submission of its statutes and standing orders to the European Management Board, together with an English translation, which must be compatible with those of BETA Europe.
- 3) In order to gain the status of an Observer, after an association fulfills the criteria set out in Article 9 (2), the application for an Observer status must be approved by the European Management Board.
- 4) In case an application as described in Article 9 (2) is rejected, the European Management Board has to provide a written explanation to the applying organisation and to the Members and the European Management Board has to forward the written application described in Article 9 (2) to the Members.
- 5) In case an application as described in Article 9 (2) is rejected, the General Assembly can decide to grant Observer status to the applying organisation by two-thirds majority.

Article 10: Members

- 1) To become a Member, an Observer should support the aims and activities of BETA Europe, as well as meeting the following conditions. The Association shall:
 - a) submit a written application to the European Management Board stating the methods and means by which it has been supporting the aims and activities of BETA Europe thus far,

- b) submit its statutes and its regulations, which must be compatible with those of BETA Europe, to the European Management Board,
 - c) the statutes of their association shall clearly state their link to BETA Europe,
 - d) submit a plan of its future activities and objectives for the upcoming year.
- 2) In order to gain the status of a Member, after an association fulfils criteria set out in Article 9 (1), the application for the Membership must be approved by the General Assembly of BETA Europe by two-thirds majority.
- 3) In case there is no Member established in a Country of their activity, a group of Individual Members of the Association can establish an informal group and present its candidature to become a Member of the Association, to the European Management Board.
- 4) In order for the informal group to be accepted as a Candidate, it has to meet the following requirements:
 - a) all its Individual Members must be registered Members of BETA Europe with paid membership fees,
 - b) all its Individual Members must show an active commitment to the organisation of activities of BETA Europe,
 - c) the draft statutes of the informal group respect the objectives and the values of BETA Europe and they have necessary statutory links,
 - d) if the European Management Board accepts the group's application, the informal group and the European Management Board shall conclude a common Memorandum for a period of one year. The Memorandum shall oblige the informal group to reach the official registration of the new Association and satisfy all the criteria to become Members of the Association inside the federal structure.

Article 11: Individual Membership

- 1) Only a natural person is eligible to apply for an Individual Membership.
- 2) Individuals may apply for a Membership of BETA Europe, regardless of their country of residence, in the absence of an established Association Member in their State of permanent residence. All Individuals Members are part of the Individual Members' Section. The functioning and the structure of the Individual Members' Section shall be in accordance with Article 21.
- 3) Article 8 (2) and Article 11 (2) shall not be applicable for natural persons who present objective reasons to join one National Association other than the one of their permanent residence.
- 4) The applicant for Individual Member shall submit an application to the European Management Board, which accepts or refuses the application. In order to be accepted as an Individual Member of BETA Europe, the applicant shall accept the values and Statutes of the Association.
- 5) In case of refusal of the application for Membership, the applicant has a right to demand the reasons behind the decision.
- 6) The attribution of Individual Membership shall be made without prejudice of the Membership rights of Members of the former BETA e.V. Duly registered members

of BETA e.V. prior to 1st July 2018 shall retain their Membership rights under BETA Europe, as Individual Members.

Article 12: Demotion

- 1) In case a Member is found to cease to support the aims and objectives of BETA Europe, voting rights from the Federal Council and the General Assembly shall be withdrawn. This decision shall be taken by a two-thirds majority vote at the General Assembly. The Member can have their voting rights restored by decision of the next General Assembly by two-thirds majority.
- 2) If the Member still does not support the aims and objectives of BETA Europe, it shall be expelled in accordance with Article 14.

Article 13: Termination

- 1) Membership or Observership ends immediately when a Member or an Observer:
 - a) notifies the European Management Board in writing of the will to terminate its Membership or Observership. The Management Board shall inform the General Assembly and proceed to the termination of the Membership/Observership;
 - b) is expelled in accordance with Article 14 of the Statutes.

Article 14: Expulsion

- 1) A Member or Observer may be expelled by a two-thirds majority vote by the General Assembly, in case of:
 - a) intentional and malicious violation of the values, Statutes or decisions taken by the General Assembly or the interests of BETA Europe,
 - b) causing considerable harm to BETA Europe, any of its Members or Observers or anyone within their responsibility,
 - c) ceasing to support the aims and activities of BETA Europe,
 - d) failing to take appropriate measures in the event when anyone within its responsibility commits above-mentioned violations.
- 2) If a Member or Observer is perceived to have engaged in the behaviour outlined in Article 14 (1)(a-d), The European Management Board shall send the Member or Observer a notification, to which the Member or Observer in question shall have one month to reply. This notification shall be made public.
- 3) The Member or Observer sends the reply to the European Management Board which shall be evaluated in two (2) weeks.
- 4) In case the European Management Board considers the reply insufficient, the Board of Trustees shall intervene to resolve the dispute.
- 5) Individual Members can be expelled by decision of the European Management Board adopted with a simple majority, after having consulted the Board of Trustees. The Member may appeal against this decision to the following General Assembly.
- 6) Individual Members can be expelled by decision of the European Management Board adopted with a simple majority, after having consulted the Board of

Trustees. The Member may appeal against this decision to the following General Assembly.

Organs

Article 15: Internal Structure

- 1) The Organs of BETA Europe are:
 - a) the General Assembly,
 - b) the European Management Board,
 - c) the Extended European Management Board,
 - d) the Board of Trustees,
 - e) the Individual Members' Section,
 - f) the Federal Council.
- 2) All Members of the European Management Board, the European Extended Management Board and the Board of Trustees must be fully valid Members of BETA Europe. Any person who no longer satisfies this rule and does not obtain a status of a Member within one week after notification issued by the European Management Board shall be deemed to have resigned.
- 3) All Members of BETA Europe shall perform their duties on a voluntary basis with no entitlement to remuneration.
- 4) The internal structure of the Organs of BETA Europe shall be established in the Rules of the Association in accordance with BETA principles and Statutes.

Article 16: The General Assembly

- 1) The General Assembly is the supreme decision-making organ of the Association.
- 2) The General Assembly is composed of Association Members and representative/s of Individual Members' Section. Each Association Member has one (1) vote. An Individual Member does not have a right to vote. The Individual Members' Section elects representative/s for the General Assembly. No matter the number of representative/s, the Individual Members' Section has one (1) collective vote.
- 3) The General Assembly shall be held at least once per year. The annual General Assembly shall take place on the last Saturday of the month of June. The European Management Board shall consult the Members of the Association with respect to the country and city where the annual General Assembly is to be held. The modalities of such consultation shall be laid down in the Rules of the Association. The European Management Board shall inform the Members of the Association of the result of the consultation, at the latest two (2) months prior to the date of the General Assembly.
- 4) An Extraordinary General Assembly shall be convoked by the European Management Board when the interests of the Association require so or when its convocation has been requested in writing or electronically by 65 percent of the Individual Members of the Association or by 30 percent of Association Members, duly stating the reasons for such a request.

- 5) An Extraordinary General Assembly must not be used to amend the statutes of the Association any further as the original reasoning behind the convoking of the Extraordinary General Assembly was. Any Amendment that does not touch the “Interest of the Association” or the “duly stated reasons” which lead to the convocation of the Extraordinary General Assembly must not be accepted by the chair of said Extraordinary General Assembly.
- 6) Any Member of the European Management Board of the Association shall convoke the General Assembly by way of a written invitation that shall be communicated by post or electronic communications to the Members of the Association at least one (1) month prior to the date of the General Assembly. The one-month period starts running on the day immediately following the day that the invitations were sent. The invitations sent by electronic communications shall be considered to have been properly sent and received if sent to the electronic communication address last given to the Association by its Members.
- 7) Every Member of the Association may request a certain item to be added to the agenda of the General Assembly by notifying the European Management Board in writing at least three (3) weeks prior to the date of the General Assembly. The European Management Board shall inform the Members about all the changes made to the agenda at least two (2) weeks prior the General Assembly. Subsequent additions to the agenda of the General Assembly may be accepted by a decision of the General Assembly taken by simple majority.
- 8) The annual accounts and the annual report on the decisions regarding the acceptance and exoneration of the European Management Board shall be presented at the annual General Assembly.
- 9) The General Assembly shall elect two (2) Auditors responsible for the accountancy of the Association, including the annual accounts. The Auditors shall present the financial statements of the Association at the annual General Assembly. The Auditors shall not be Members of the European Management Board nor members of any committee set up by the European Management Board nor employees of the Association. The Auditors shall be elected by the General Assembly for a period of one (1) year, namely until the date of the following annual General Assembly and shall check the financial standing of the Association prior to the appointment of the new European Management Board. The Auditors shall have been Members of the Association for at least one (1) year.
- 10) The decision-making powers of the General Assembly include in particular:
 - a) the activities of the Association,
 - b) the election of a Chair for the General Assembly,
 - c) the election of a Secretary for the General Assembly,
 - d) the acceptance and exoneration of the European Management Board,
 - e) the election of an Election Supervisor,
 - f) the election of the European Management Board,
 - g) the election of the Board of Trustees,
 - h) taking up loans of a value of more than EUR 500,
 - i) the amount of the Membership fee,

- j) any changes in the Statutes and the goals of the Association,
 - k) the decision on the appeal against the European Management Board's decision of exclusion from the Association,
 - l) the approval of the expulsion of a Member or Observer,
 - m) the dissolution of the Association,
 - n) all matters not falling within the area of responsibility of another organ of the Association.
- 11) A General Assembly convoked in compliance with the applicable legislation and the present Statutes shall be considered to have been convened lawfully regardless of the number of Members present. Every Member of the Association that has fully paid their Membership fee and was already a Member of the Association when the General Assembly was convoked by the European Management Board shall have the right to vote at the General Assembly. If a Member of the Association is not able to attend the General Assembly, they may authorize in writing and for one (1) General Assembly at a time another Member of the Association to exercise their right to vote. Every attending Member may exercise the voting rights of no more than three (3) absent Members.
 - 12) The President calls the meeting to order. He/she runs the election of the Chair of the General Assembly, who takes over immediately after their election. The Election Supervisor shall take over the election of the European Management Board as well as the debate that precedes it. The Election Supervisor may not run for any position in the European Management Board, the Board of Trustees, and be elected Auditor, but keeps his or her right to vote.
 - 13) Election shall be secret if one (1) Member present or represented so requests.
 - 14) The General Assembly adopts its decisions with a simple majority. In the event of a tie, the motion shall be considered to have failed.
 - 15) All elections require a simple majority. If no candidate receives votes equal to a simple majority, there shall be a runoff between the candidates who received the most votes; the winner is then elected by relative majority. In the event of a tie, a lot will be drawn by the Chair or by the Election Supervisor running the election of the European Management Board.
 - 16) In order to guarantee an equal representation, each Association Member can send up to three (3) representatives to the General Assembly with voting rights. The number of the Association Member representatives can exceed three (3) however, the number of votes shall remain the same i.e. one (1). The Individual Members' Section can send up to three (3) representatives.
 - 17) An Observer can participate in the General Assembly, except during voting procedures, having to leave the room in order not to influence the final decision. Observers can participate with a maximum of one (1) representative.
 - 18) It is a responsibility of the European Management Board to ensure that each participant at the General Assembly has the right to participate.
 - 19) At the moment of the announcement of the General Assembly, the European Management Board has to open a participation list which should be reachable by

each Member of the Association and it will close two weeks (2) before the beginning of the General Assembly.

Article 17: The Board of Trustees

- 1) The Board of Trustees shall consist of former Members of the European Management Board, former members of the European Extended Management Board as well as by other persons nominated by the General Assembly. It may comprise as many as fifteen (15) Trustees.
- 2) A Trustee shall not hold a position within one of the other organs of the Association or Association members, with the exception of being a Trustee in another Association Member.
- 3) In order to be eligible to be elected as a Trustee, the person must have been a Member of the BETA Europe or National Branch for at least one (1) year.
- 4) The Members of the Board of Trustees are elected by the General Assembly for a mandate of three (3) years. Every member of the Board of Trustees shall be elected separately by simple majority. If more people than places available run for the mandate, only those who received the most votes shall be elected to the positions available. In the event of a tie, there will be a runoff between the candidates concerned. In the event of a second tie, the winner will be determined by a lot drawn by the Chair of the General Assembly. The Members of the Board of Trustees shall choose among them by simple majority a representative for a mandate of one (1) year; the tasks of the representative shall be to represent the Board of Trustees and to coordinate its work.
- 5) The Trustees support the European Management Board in a consultative capacity. In particular, they pass down their knowledge and experience to the current Members of the European Management Board and of the European Extended Management Board. Furthermore, they are responsible for the continuation of the work of the Association as well as for its effective development. Finally, the Trustees may also be called upon as mediators in the event of a conflict within the Association.
- 6) The mandate of a Trustee ends either:
 - a) automatically at the end of their mandate;
 - b) by resolution of the General Assembly adopted by a two-third majority;
 - c) upon their request addressed to the European Management Board in writing with two weeks notice.
- 7) If all members of the European Management Board resign, the Board of Trustees shall elect a Transitional Board that takes over the duties of the European Management Board provisionally and convokes as soon as possible a General Assembly for the election of the new members of the European Management Board.

Article 18: The European Management Board

- 1) The following positions exist as elected positions within the European Management Board:
 - a) the President,
 - i) The President oversees the overall coordination of the BETA Europe work, execution of expansion, direction of the work and communication within the European Management Board, planning and execution of external relations. The President represents the Association towards externals and is responsible for the communication with them;
 - b) two (2) Vice-Presidents,
 - i) The Vice-Presidents are responsible for the overall planning, coordination and supervision of their respective field of activity; they are responsible for the stimulation and execution of the specific programmes and projects that the Association initiates within their respective field of activity;
 - c) the Secretary General,
 - i) The Secretary General is responsible for directing, organising and maintaining the internal structure of the Association, and shall consequently be responsible for ensuring that decisions to this effect are implemented and respected by all branches of BETA Europe. The Secretary General shall also be responsible for identifying any non-observance in this field, and shall make all necessary resources available to correct any inconsistency;
 - d) the Treasurer,
 - i) The Treasurer of BETA Europe is responsible for the financial planning, management of BETA Europe's assets, accounting, the arrangement of financial control, billing and collecting the annual membership fees together with any other amounts due to BETA Europe from the Members, Observers or third parties, presenting the interim and final accounts to the General Assembly, and other tasks related to BETA Europe's finances.
- 2) All elected positions will be filled by votes conducted at the General Assembly.
- 3) The term of all positions will start on the first day after the General Assembly, with a handover period of one (1) month.
- 4) If a position becomes vacant during the year, the Board may appoint another person to fill this position.
- 5) Members of the European Management Board shall remain in office even after their mandate has expired, until their successor has been appointed or elected by the General Assembly, with exception to situations outlined in Article 18 (4) and Article 18 (12).
- 6) The division of competences inside the European Management Board shall be established at the first meeting after the election of its Members at the General

- Assembly. This division shall be made public in order to inform Members of the Association of such division. In case of changes all Members shall be notified.
- 7) For legal purposes, the European Management Board can be represented by any Member of the European Management Board.
 - 8) The European Management Board is elected for a period of one (1) year, which starts on the 1st of July and ends on the 30 of June of the following year. Members of the European Management Board can be re-elected only once.
 - 9) In order to be eligible to be elected, each of the candidates must have been a Member of the Association for at least six (6) months at the moment of the election.
 - 10) The European Management Board may invite advisors to its meetings, who shall not have the right to vote.
 - 11) Every Member of the European Management Board shall be elected separately.
 - 12) If a Member of the European Management Board resigns or he/she is not capable to fulfill assigned duties before their mandate expires anymore, the European Management Board can exceptionally appoint a successor after having consulted the European Extended Management Board and the Board of Trustees. The successor shall remain in office for the remainder of the mandate of the Member who resigned.
 - 13) In case three (3) or more Members of the European Management Board resign before the end of their mandate, the Board of Trustees shall provisionally take over the functions of the European Management Board and shall convoke a General Assembly as soon as possible for the purpose of the election of new Members of the European Management Board.
 - 14) The European Management Board shall be responsible for the daily business of the Association. In particular, its duties include:
 - a) handling all matters related to the day-to-day functioning of the Association as well as its legal affairs,
 - b) convoking and preparing of the General Assembly,
 - c) implementing all decisions of the General Assembly,
 - d) being accountable for the Association,
 - e) preparing the annual report,
 - f) decision-making regarding the admission and exclusion of Members and Observers of the Association.
 - 15) The meetings of the European Management Board shall take place every time the need arises. There must be a minimum of two (2) meetings per year. All meetings are convoked by any Member of the Board, who specifies the agenda in the invitation. The meetings of the European Management Board are valid where at least two (2) of its Members are present or represented.
 - 16) The meetings of the European Management Board are chaired by any Board Member.
 - 17) The European Management Board deliberates by simple majority. In the case of a tie, the vote of the President and, in his/her absence, that of the Vice-President, decides.

- 18) The European Management Board adopts its decisions in writing or by any other means of electronic communication, provided that all of its Members have unanimously agreed on the chosen procedure.
- 19) All documents containing decisions of the European Management Board shall be kept in the database of the Association for at least three (3) years and shall be presented, upon request, at the General Assembly.
- 20) After the election of a new European Management Board, there shall be a transitory period of one (1) month, in order to complete the handover and the registration of the new Board.

Article 19: The European Extended Management Board

- 1) The European Management Board may decide that a certain number of people shall be appointed to be responsible for specific areas of the activity of the Association. The appointees shall constitute the European Extended Management Board.
- 2) The European Management Board shall inform all Members in writing about the different positions to be filled. A deadline no shorter than two (2) weeks shall be provided for applicants to submit their applications. The European Management Board examines all applications received and decides on the appointees by simple majority.
- 3) The Members of the European Extended Management Board shall act on behalf of the European Management Board and may represent it exceptionally upon specific authorization issued to this effect.
- 4) The mandate of each Member of the European Extended Management Board shall last for one (1) year. There is no limit on how many times may a person be granted a mandate in a row.
- 5) The number of the Members of the European Extended Management Board shall not exceed twelve (12).
- 6) Each Member of the European Extended Management Board shall manage a respective team of Officers in order to perform the activities of the Association for which they are responsible.
- 7) The Officers are Members of respective teams. Each team is managed by one Member of the European Extended Management Board (the Head). The Officers are expected to work on the tasks requested by the Head of their team. The Officers are not considered a part of the European Extended Management Board.
- 8) The Members of the European Extended Management Board shall participate in the meetings of the European Management Board.
- 9) The opinion of the European Extended Management Board prevails over the one of the Management Board if two-thirds of the Members of the European Extended Management Board oppose a decision of the Management Board.

Article 20: The Federal Representation

- 1) The composition of the European Extended Management Board should reflect the composition of the Federal Association. In order to do so, the European

Management Board shall take into consideration the composition of the European Extended Management Board when it presents the positions to be filled, provided that the Members and the Individual Section are well represented.

Article 21: The Individual Members' Section

- 1) The Individual Members' Section is composed by all Individual Members who joined the Association pursuant to the Article 10.
- 2) The goals of the Individual Members' Section are as follows:
 - a) to promote the values of the Association,
 - b) to assist the Association in its daily tasks,
 - c) to encourage new people from countries where there is no established Association Member to join the organization,
 - d) to support the Association in setting up new organizations willing to be part of the federal organization of BETA Europe in countries where there are no Association Members.
- 3) All the activity of the Individual Members' Section should be in line with the goals of BETA Europe.
- 4) Individual Members shall have the following rights:
 - a) to participate in the events of BETA Europe under this Memorandum and Rules of the Association,
 - b) to participate in the events of each Association Member according to the Statutes and rules of each Association Member,
 - c) to apply as an Auditor, a Member of the Board of Trustees, a Member of the European Management Board, a Member of the European Extended Management Board or any other position within the Association under this Memorandum,
 - d) to attend the General Assembly and execute a right to vote there.
- 5) The representatives of the Individual Members' Section are elected by electronic vote by the majority of the Members of the Association before the General Assembly in order to represent the interest of the Association.
- 6) After consulting the European Management Board and the Board of Trustees, the Individual Members' Section approves its own internal rules for selecting its representatives and setting the rights and the duties of its Members. These Rules must respect the Statutes of BETA Europe and the Rules of the Association.

Article 22: The Federal Council

- 1) At the end of the transitory period, the European Management Board will establish a Federal Council, which shall be a horizontal meeting of the Management Boards of the Members and Observers.
- 2) The Federal Council shall be composed of the representatives of the Association Members and the President of the European Management Board or his/her substitute. Each Association Member shall appoint two (2) national representatives that will form part of the Federal Council. Each Observer shall appoint one (1) representative.

- 3) The purpose of the Federal Council is to exchange experience, information and ideas between the National organisations and to contribute to the implementation of the decisions of the General Assembly and to prepare the European Common Strategy for the Association.
- 4) The European Common Strategy for the Association shall provide guidelines to the European Management Board in order to improve the strategy presented during the General Assembly. The final document of the meeting must be approved by simple majority.
- 5) The European Common Strategy must not go against the decisions taken by the General Assembly.
- 6) The European Common Strategy shall be published and accessible to each Member of the Association.
- 7) Observers' representatives may be present during the debate in order to give feedback, but they are not allowed to participate in the voting procedure.
- 8) The Federal Council shall be convoked twice a year. The first meeting shall serve to be agreed on the European Common Strategy. Simple Majority is required for the approval of the European Common Strategy. After six months, the European Management Board shall convoke a second meeting to present the first results. During the second meeting, the Members of the Federal Council shall have the possibility to present amendments on the text. Amendments shall be adopted by two-thirds majority.
- 9) The European Management Board shall convoke an Extraordinary Meeting, if requested by, at least, one-third of the Members.

Funding, Amendments, Dispute, Resolution, Dissolution

Article 23: Sources of Funding

- 1) The costs of running the activities are to be funded by annual membership fees, sales and advertisement revenues, fundraising from private and public bodies and organisations, public subsidies and donations whether in cash or in kind, provided that such funds must not be accepted if tied to conditions contrary to the interests, aims and principles of the Association.
- 2) Each Association Member is obliged to pay an annual fee for each financial year of membership. The amount of the annual fee shall be calculated according to the Purchasing Power Parity (PPP) index provided on national basis and shall be proportional to the number of Members regularly registered to each Association Member.
- 3) The General Assembly shall define the amount of the fees, at the beginning of each financial year, using the method outlined in paragraph 2. To do so, an annex containing the due specific quotas will be created on an annual basis and subsequently approved by the General Assembly. The approved annex will be attached to the Rules of Association. The General Assembly may set a range defining the maximum and minimum amount of the annual fees to be paid by the Association Members.

- 4) In case of exceptional circumstances, the European Management Board may grant specific waivers for Association Members. Such decisions shall be taken by consensus, following specific and transparent criteria contained in the Rules of Association.
- 5) The Federal Council, upon request of two-thirds of its members, may demand an extraordinary meeting to be informed and consulted on the factual situation of the Association Member.
- 6) Each Individual Member is obliged to pay an annual membership fee. The amount is decided by the General Assembly.

Article 24: Amendments and Changes

- 1) In order to amend the Statutes, a two-thirds majority of the attending or represented Members of the Association is needed. Changes to the Statutes can only be voted on if the amendment has already been included in the invitation to the meeting and if this invitation included the current and proposed text of the Statutes.
- 2) Under exceptional circumstances, statutory changes required by the inspectorate, the financial authorities or the Court may be conducted by the European Management Board. The European Management Board shall inform the Members of the Association of all statutory changes made in this way.

Article 25: Disputes

- 1) Any dispute or disagreement arising out of or in connection with these Statutes between Association Members or between an Association Member and BETA Europe should be settled by negotiation between the involved parties.
- 2) The Board of Trustees shall act as a mediator of the dispute between relevant parties in the process.
- 3) The result of the mediation of the Board of Trustees shall strive for amicable settlements in all cases before considering further disciplinary sanctions.
- 4) In case the mediation fails to deliver a solution for the dispute or disagreement in question, it shall be settled by arbitration between the involved parties.
- 5) Arbitration will be established ad hoc for the sole purposes of resolving the dispute in question and shall be dissolved once the arbitration panel has rendered its decision.
- 6) The process of arbitration shall be requested by one or both of the parties involved in the dispute.
- 7) In exceptional cases when the dispute puts at risk the integrity of the Association, the Board of Trustees can initiate the arbitration.
- 8) Each party to the dispute shall appoint one (1) arbitrator. The two appointed arbitrators shall, amongst themselves, appoint a third impartial arbitrator.
- 9) The arbitrators after selecting the third (3rd) impartial colleague shall consult the Head of the Legal Affairs team in regard to the nature of the dispute and the necessity of the inclusion of the legal expert.

- 10) By activating this dispute resolution method, the parties give voluntary consent to respect and execute the decision made by the arbitrators.
- 11) Except for the arbitrators, the legal expert, and the parties involved in the dispute no other organ of the Association shall participate in the process.
- 12) Each arbitrator has one (1) vote deciding upon the case. Before rendering the judgment the arbitrators could consult the legal expert.
- 13) Only the members of the Board of Trustees are permanently eligible to be arbitrators. This right is an inalienable part of the membership of the Board of Trustees.
- 14) The arbitration procedure and the verdict shall be governed by the European Union's and the Council of Europe's values' in accordance with the Association statutes and Rules of the Association.
- 15) The unsatisfied Party has the right to submit an appeal to the Board of Trustees which could render two decision:
 - a) Dismissing the appeal and reinforce the decision made by the Arbitrators or,
 - b) initiate a new procedure. Submission of the appeal won't affect the enforcement of the previously rendered measures.
- 16) If the decision requests a redo, the Arbitrators involved in the previous procedure are excluded and cannot be elected. A new procedure shall be governed by this Article.
- 17) The initiative for a new procedure shall be based on one of the following grounds:
 - a) New findings;
 - b) Procedural mistakes including formal and material error in the verdict.
 - c) Violation of the European Union's and the Council of Europe's values and principals as well as the Associations' Statutes or the Rules of the Association.

Article 26: Dissolution

- 1) BETA Europe may be dissolved by unanimous decision of the General Assembly.
- 2) In order for the dissolution to be valid, a decision by the General Assembly to dissolve BETA Europe must be preceded by a proposal to that effect on the European Management Board agenda.
- 3) The General Assembly shall upon a decision to dissolve BETA Europe elect two (2) liquidators and shall subsequently decide about the destination of the net assets and property of BETA Europe, if any.
- 4) The destination as mentioned in Article 26 (3) shall be one or multiple non-profit Non-Governmental Organization(s) which pursues a similar aim as BETA Europe.

Temporary Provisions

Article 27: Temporary Measures

- 1) This Document may be amended by unanimity by the Federal Task Force. If there are more than twelve (12) Associations, two-thirds majority of Members in favour is sufficient.
- 2) The final approval of this Document must be by unanimity and should be signed by each member.
- 3) All the Associations willing to sign the Memorandum, as Founders of BETA Europe, will automatically become the Members of the new organization.
- 4) This Memorandum comes into force once each National General Assembly ratifies the Document in accordance to its internal rules and implements the necessary statutory changes in order to fulfill the requirements of an Association Member of BETA Europe.
- 5) Once the Memorandum is approved by all National General Assemblies existing on 29th of June 2018, it shall be considered the official Statutes proposal for BETA Europe.
- 6) When the Memorandum is approved, the Management Board of BETA e.V. shall be responsible for the legal and financial transfer from BETA e.V. to BETA Europe.
- 7) A specific agreement will be conducted inside BETA e.V. in order to guarantee an efficient and effective legal and financial transfer for BETA Europe.
- 8) In case a National General Assembly rejects the Memorandum, it will not be considered as Association Founder. In such a case, the National Association may join BETA Europe as Association Member by following the criteria established by BETA Statutes and The Rules of the Association.
- 9) During the transition period, members of BETA e.V. shall have the right to choose the Association membership they wish to keep: BETA Europe and/or an Association member. Members may also retain membership of both entities. This process shall occur via electronic communications and have a set deadline.