

STATUTES*
OF THE EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF FORMER MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

Modified by the General Assembly on 26 February 2010

Preamble

Convinced that the consolidation of peace founded on justice and international cooperation is of vital interest for the preservation of human society and civilisation.

Inextricably attached to the spiritual and moral values which are the common heritage of their peoples and are the origin of the principles of individual liberty, political freedom and the primacy of law, on which a true democracy is based.

Convinced that, in order to safeguard this ideal and to enable it to triumph progressively, and in order to favour social and economic progress, it is of the utmost importance to set up, on the basis of the "Agreement concerning European meetings of former members of parliament", signed in Strasbourg on 18 October 1987, an organisation grouping the former members of parliament in a closer association.

Article 1

A "EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF FORMER MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT OF THE MEMBER STATES OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE", hereafter called "European Association" is set up.

For its correspondence, the European Association can use the abbreviation "FP-AP" or "fp-ap".

The aim of the European Association is to promote the European ideal and to contribute to the European construction. To this end, its objective is to make the European institutions better known.

The European Association may organise meetings and colloquy aimed at examining the major problems of society.

Article 2

The European Association is open to associations of former parliamentarians:
- of the national parliaments of the member states of the Council of Europe
- of the European Parliament
hereafter called "member Associations".

Article 3

Every member Association shall remain autonomous within its country of origin, its membership of the European Association translated in particular through respect of the present statutes and rules of procedure.

Article 4

The European Association shall consist of two bodies - the General Assembly and the Bureau.
A restricted Bureau operates within the Bureau and deals with the Secretariat of current issues, according to the stipulations of the rules of procedure.

Article 5

Every member Association shall appoint for two years three delegates responsible for representing it during the General Assembly meetings. The former Chairmen of the European Association as well as the former Chairmen of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe who have been members of the Bureau of the European Association, shall be ex-officio members of the General Assembly with advisory vote only.

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Article 6

Every member association shall be represented by two delegates at the Bureau, the executive body of the Association. The delegates are appointed for two years at the suggestion of the member Associations and after approval by the General Assembly.

Article 7

The General Assembly shall elect, at the suggestion of the Bureau, the Chairperson and the First Vice-President of the European Association by simple majority of the member associations present, not taking the abstentions into account. The presidency shall be assured every two years by a representative of each member association.

Article 8

The Bureau may only deliberate if a majority of member Associations is represented and decisions are taken based on a majority of member associations present.
The former Chairmen of the European Association as well as the former chairmen of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe and the European Parliament that have been members of the Bureau of the European Association, are ex-officio members of the Bureau with advisory vote only.

Article 9

In the event of resignation, disablement or decease of the Chairperson, the Bureau, convened by the First Vice-President, shall meet as soon as possible to appoint a Chairperson within the Bureau for the remaining duration of the mandate following the procedure stipulated in Article 7.

Article 10

The Bureau shall draw up the standing orders to determine the modalities of the functioning of the European Association and the competencies of its delegates.
It shall submit for approval the budget and its means of financing to the General Assembly which shall decide by a two-third majority of the member associations. The membership fee shall be fixed annually by the General Assembly.

Article 11

The Bureau shall meet at least twice a year when convened by the Chairperson, and will meet exceptionally at the request of half of the member associations.
The General Assembly has to meet once a year, and will meet exceptionally at the request of one third of its member associations.

Article 12

The seat of the European Association shall be in Paris at the Assemblée Nationale, 126 rue de l'Université - PARIS 7ème.

Article 13

Any modification to the statutes requires a two-third majority of the member associations of the General Assembly, provided that notice of any proposed amendments shall have been sent to them in writing 21 days prior to the meeting.