



DIRECTORAAT-GENERAAL
WETGEVING, FUNDAMENTELE
RECHTEN EN VRIJHEDEN

DIRECTION GENERALE DE LA
LEGISLATION ET DES LIBERTES
ET DROITS FONDAMENTAUX

WL 22/14.124

WL 22/14.124

FILIP, Koning der Belgen,
Aan allen die nu zijn en hierna wezen zullen,
Onze Groet.

PHILIPPE, Roi des Belges,
A tous, présents et à venir, Salut.

Gelet op het Wetboek van vennootschappen en verenigingen, artikel 2:5, § 4 ;

Vu le Code des sociétés et des associations, article 2:5, § 4 ;

Gelet op het koninklijk besluit van 8 september 1997 tot verlening van rechtspersoonlijkheid aan de internationale vereniging «European Union of the Deaf», (ondernemingsnummer 0462.071.871) ;

Vu l'arrêté royal du 8 septembre 1997 accordant la personnalité civile à l'association internationale «European Union of the Deaf», (numéro d'entreprise 0462.071.871) ;

Gelet op het verzoekschrift van 6 juli 2021 waarbij de voornoemde internationale vereniging, waarvan de zetel gevestigd is te 1040 Etterbeek, de wijziging van het doel en de activiteiten, aangenomen door de algemene vergadering van 1 juli 2021, ter koninklijke goedkeuring voorlegt ;

Vu la requête du 6 juillet 2021 par laquelle la dite association internationale, dont le siège est établi à 1040 Etterbeek, soumet à l'approbation royale la modification du but et des activités, adoptée par l'assemblée générale du 1^{er} juillet 2021 ;

Gelet op de overeenstemming van de aangebrachte wijziging met artikel 10:1 van voormeld Wetboek ;

Vu la conformité de la modification apportée avec l'article 10:1 du Code précité ;

Op de voordracht van de Minister van
Justitie,

Sur la proposition du Ministre de la
Justice,

Hebben Wij besloten en besluiten Wij :

Nous avons arrêté et arrêtons :

Artikel 1.- De wijziging van het doel en de activiteiten, aangenomen door de algemene vergadering van de internationale vereniging «European Union of the Deaf», afgekort «EUD», waarvan de zetel gevestigd is te 1040 Etterbeek, Wetstraat, 26/15, wordt goedgekeurd.

Article 1^{er}.- La modification du but et des activités, adoptée par l'assemblée générale de l'association internationale «European Union of the Deaf», en abrégé «EUD», dont le siège est établi à 1040 Etterbeek, rue de la Loi, 26/15, est approuvée.

Art. 2. De minister bevoegd voor Justitie is belast met de uitvoering van dit besluit.

Art. 2. Le ministre qui a la Justice dans ses attributions est chargé de l'exécution du présent arrêté.

Brussel, 15 november 2021.

Bruxelles, le 15 novembre 2021.

(g.) FILIP

PHILIPPE (s.)

Van Koningswege :
De Minister van Justitie,

Par le Roi :
Le Ministre de la Justice,

(g.) V. VAN QUICKENBORNE (s.)

Voor eensluidende uitgifte :
De administratieve Assistentte,

Pour expédition conforme :
L'Assistante administrative,



Michèle de LAAT





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TITLE I - Organisation

Article 1 - Name

The association's name is "**European Union of the Deaf**", abridged form "**EUD**".

Article 2 –Rules of Procedure

EUD is governed by the current Articles of Association and subsequent amendments thereto, the applied Belgian legislation and by the association's Rules of Procedure, including the annexes thereto.

Article 3 - Duration

The duration of the association is indefinite. Its legal status may be modified at any time in accordance with Article 32 of these Articles of Association. Dissolution may only be carried out in accordance with Article 33 of these Articles of Association.

Article 4 – Registered office

Its registered office is located in the Brussels Region.

The management body may move the registered office within the bilingual linguistic region of Brussels and the Dutch-speaking linguistic region and set up branches and other centres of activity anywhere, subject to approval by the General Assembly in accordance with Articles 13 and 21.

Article 5 - Objectives

Section 1: Mission

The aim of EUD is to represent and promote the interests of Deaf Europeans at European Union level, to achieve equality in public and private life for Deaf people in Europe, so that they can become full citizens with all rights.

Section 2: Objectives

In order to protect the human rights of, and promote equal opportunities for, deaf people in accordance with non-discrimination principles, EUD shall act in accordance with the principles laid down in international and European treaties, declarations and/or charters and all other instruments that respect the dignity of deaf people and promote their equal and full participation in all areas of the community. All these objectives shall be pursued in accordance with the principles of transparency and participation in the democratic process. EUD shall, if necessary, use special legal or administrative measures to achieve the objectives and activities laid down in these Articles of Association.

In order to fulfil its objectives and aims, EUD reserves the right to become a member of European or international organisations. It may also enter into cooperation agreements with relevant organisations. However, such partners may not, at any time, claim or exercise any rights over the property of the Association.

EUD has three concrete long-term goals:

- Recognition of the right to use native sign language;
- Empowerment through communication and information; and
- Equality in education and employment.



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Section 3: Activities

In line with the above objectives, EUD has the following activities, which shall be carried out after consultation and cooperation with its members and should be carried out using existing and new international human rights instruments following a rights-based approach to disabilities and deafness:

- a) Encouraging active cooperation and exchanges of information between member organisations and cooperating partners;
- b) Promoting and coordinating pan-European activities and events for deaf people and their organisations, including training to strengthen members in order to pursue the goals set out in these Articles of Association at national level.
- c) Establishing and maintaining active cooperation, dialogue and representation with European and international institutions and organisations and their delegates, including but not limited to the European Union, the Council of Europe and the United Nations;
- d) Establishing and maintaining active cooperation with other relevant non-governmental organisations (NGOs) as defined in the Rules of Procedure (Article 4) and also with the media, trade unions and employers.
- e) Promoting and structurally monitoring European legislative proposals and conducting campaigns to influence policies and practices in Europe;
- f) Conducting and commissioning research and data collection in each area relating to deaf people and offering such - where appropriate, in cooperation with other organisations - to relevant shareholders and organisations, including but not limited to European Union institutions and/or national governments and their agencies and university and research bodies.
- g) Preparing and disseminating opinions, regular information bulletins and other contributions - in writing or by sign language - online or offline.
- h) Defending the interests of its member organisations and their member organisations, at European level and also when called upon to do so through them at national level.
- i) Making every effort, directly or indirectly, to further the objectives and activities of EUD.

Article 6 - Definition

The term "Deaf" refers to any person with a hearing loss, especially those who use sign language as their natural or preferred / first language. National Deaf Organisations are allowed to use their own preferred definition of deafness and sign language, taking into account the definition of WFD/EUD.

Title II - Members

Article 7 - Membership

There are five (5) categories of members: (1) Full Members, (2) Affiliate Members, (3) Associate Members, (4) Honorary Members and (5) Individual Members.

The rights and obligations of these members shall be laid down in these Articles of Association and Rules of Procedure of the Association.

Any reference to 'Member' or 'Members' shall refer to all members (Full, Affiliate, Associate, Honorary and Individual) together, unless otherwise stated. The term 'Member Organisation' or 'Member Organisations' refers only to Full, Affiliate and Associate members, unless otherwise stated.



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Member Organisations must be legally incorporated in accordance with the laws and customs of the country of origin.

All members, except honorary members, are obliged to pay an annual membership fee. The rights and obligations of all members are laid down in Articles 5 and 6 of the Rules of Procedure. The application procedures for members are laid down in Article 9 of the Articles of Association of the Association.

No member, in any category and at any time, shall be entitled to or may claim the profits of EUD, except when the Member has granted a loan to EUD.

Article 8 – Membership categories

Section 1: Full Members

National Associations of the Deaf (NADs), active in the Member States of the European Union, with a clear majority of Deaf voting members among its membership and with a majority of deaf people in its decision-making Board and whose objectives are identical to those mentioned in Article 5 of these Articles of Association, are eligible for the Full Membership category.

In addition, National Associations of the Deaf, active in the Member States of the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) and meeting the above criteria, are also eligible for Full Membership.

All Founding Members retain the status of Permanent Full Members unless they choose to renounce membership in accordance with Article 10 of the Articles of Association.

Full Members will be regularly informed and asked for advice on the association's activities. Full Members have full ownership of the association. Full Members determine and approve the policy and priorities of the association. They continuously contribute to all activities.

Full Membership is limited to one (1) National Association of the Deaf per country.

Section 2: Affiliate Members

National Associations of the Deaf (NADs), active in Central and Eastern European countries, which have signed a cooperation treaty with the European Union and/or which will accede to the European Union in the future, with a clear majority of Deaf voting members among its membership and with a majority of deaf people in its decision-making Board and whose objectives are identical to the objectives and activities mentioned in Article 5 of these Articles of Association, are eligible for the Affiliate Membership Category. This category may also apply to non-EU National Associations of the Deaf which meet the above criteria and which are active in countries geographically situated in Europe and which have signed or will sign a Partnership and Cooperation Agreement (PCA) with the European Union.

This category may continue to be applied to member countries of the Council of Europe (CoE) after approval by the General Assembly.

Other countries that are not geographically located in Europe, but wish to join EUD for political or other reasons, require the approval of the General Assembly.

Affiliate Members will be regularly informed and asked for advice on the association's activities.



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Section 3: Associate Members

Any European, national, regional and local organisation which does not meet the above criteria of a National Association of the Deaf, but which wishes to support the objectives of EUD - while its own objectives and activities do not conflict with those of the association as set out in Article 5 of these Articles of Association - may be admitted as an Associate Member provided that its geographical scope is within Europe. Companies, profit-oriented organisations and clubs may also be included.

Section 4: Honorary Members

Honorary membership may be granted to any natural person or legal entity who has provided important and outstanding European and international services to EUD and the European Community of the Deaf.

Section 5: Individual Members

Any individual who is interested in the work of the association and believes that he/she can support the objectives and activities of EUD can apply for individual membership.

Article 9 – Application procedure for members

All applications are approved by the Board and the General Assembly as laid down in the Rules of Procedure (Article 8).

Honorary Membership is approved by the General Assembly. Only Full Members and Board Members may nominate Honorary Members.

Article 10 – Renunciation, termination, exclusion and suspension

Any Member may renounce its EUD membership at any time, by registered letter addressed to the Board with notice of resignation. This withdrawal shall take effect immediately.

If there is sufficient evidence that existing members do not comply with the principles as set out in Article 5 and/or Article 7 of the Articles of Association, the Board may recommend the termination of membership to the General Assembly. Membership shall be terminated after approval of the General Assembly.

The Board has the right to suspend Membership in accordance with Article 22 of the Articles of Association and only if a Member violates Article 5 and/or Article 31 of the Articles of Association and/or Articles 5, 6 and 7 of the Rules of Procedure.

Any member who in any way or for any reason ceases to be a member of the Association shall not be entitled to any compensation from the Association and shall not be entitled to any assets of the Association. The membership fee that is still applicable shall remain outstanding and must be paid until the end of the financial year. Renewal may be granted after two (2) years, after recommendation of the Board and must be approved by the General Assembly, and only if there is sufficient evidence that the conditions of the violation have changed.

The results of all cases as determined in this Article shall be notified to all Members within 35 days.



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Title III – Organisational structure and secretariat

A – General

Article 11 – Organisational structure

The organisation contains the following structural bodies:

- The General Assembly; and
- The Board, chaired by the President

The Secretariat and its staff support the organisation in achieving its long-term goals.

Article 12 – Secretariat

The Secretariat is headed by an Executive Director, who is directly accountable to the EUD Board. All other staff report to the Executive Director.

B – General Assembly

Article 13 – Composition

The General Assembly shall consist of Full Members representing their Organisation in accordance with the Articles of Association of their Organisation.

The following individuals may attend and address the General Assembly but shall not have voting rights:

- a) the Board members;
- b) the Executive Director; and
- c) the staff of the EUD Secretariat.

Delegates of all Membership categories have the right to attend the General Assembly and may, with the permission of the President, address the General Assembly. Representation of Members must comply with Article 5 of the Rules of Procedure of the Association.

The cooperation partners of EUD and other invited guests may attend the General Assembly but do not have voting rights. They may only address the General Assembly with the permission of the President.

Article 14 – Powers and responsibilities

The General Assembly has the following exclusive powers according to the Articles of Association and Rules of Procedure:

- a) Electing the Board (Members: 1 President, 1 Vice-President, 3 Ordinary Board Members)
- b) Discussing and approving of submitted reports on EUD activities;
- c) Taking action on submitted financial reports and budgetary matters;
- d) Approving the annual accounts and budgets;
- e) Discussing and approving the EUD Action Programme for the coming year and issuing new guidelines to EUD;
- f) Authorising the EUD Board and/or Secretariat to submit project applications for the coming year(s).
- g) Modifying and voting on submitted recommendations, proposals and motions;
- h) Amending the Articles of Associations and Rules of Procedure of the Association;



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- i) Accepting and terminating Membership in all categories and excluding non-paying members from EUD, in accordance with Article 10 of the Rules of Procedure;
- j) Appointing and dismissing directors;
- k) Changing the name or location of the association;
- l) Dissolving EUD.

Article 15 – Annual General Assembly

The Annual General Assembly shall take place once a year in a Member State of the European Union at a location specified in the official convening notice. The location shall follow the countries of the Presidency of the European Union unless the Full Member concerned is unable to ensure the holding of the Assembly.

Article 16 – Extraordinary General Assembly

Extraordinary General Assemblies shall be convened by the President after consultation with the other directors and the Executive Director or at the request of at least one quarter (1/4) of the Full Members.

Article 17 – Quorum and voting

The General Assembly is the highest authority within the association.

The General Assembly can only transact business on the pre-approved agenda.

Only Full Members have voting rights in accordance with Article 5 (2) of the Rules of Procedure of the Association.

The quorum shall always be more than 50% of the persons with voting rights.

All resolutions shall be deemed to be adopted/ratified/approved by a simple majority of 'yes' votes (more than 50%), with the exceptions of amendments to the Articles of Association/Rules of Procedure and the dissolution of the association, where a two-thirds (more than 2/3) majority shall apply.

Delegates may vote for any choice offered or choose to abstain from voting. An abstention shall count as a vote. Votes may be cast by roll call, show of hands, electronic voting or, if requested by at least two (2) Full Members, by secret ballot. Votes by proxy shall not be permitted.

Article 18 – Convening notices and agenda

The convening notices and agenda for all meetings of the General Assembly (annual and extraordinary) must be sent to all members in accordance with Articles 11 and 12 of the Rules of Procedure.

Article 18bis. Written procedure for General Assemblies

§1. Members may, acting unanimously and in writing, within the limits laid down by law, pass all resolutions vested in the General Assembly, with the exception of those which must be executed by a notarial deed.

§2. As regards the date of the Annual General Assembly, the date of the resolution signed by all members shall be deemed to be the statutory date of the Annual General Assembly, unless proven otherwise, provided that the written resolutions signed by all members reached the association 20 days before the statutory date. If more than one copy of the proposed resolution has been sent, the date of receipt of the last of such shall be decisive with regard to the date of the resolution.



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Resolutions in writing, whether or not in several copies, shall be supplemented by a dated and signed declaration from the management body that the resolution signed by all members has reached the registered office of the association at the latest 20 days before the statutory date of the Annual General Assembly and bears all required signatures.

If the last resolution in writing has not been received at the latest 20 days before the statutory date of the Annual General Assembly, the management body must convene the General Assembly.

§3. With regard to the date of the Extraordinary General Assembly, the date of the resolution signed by all members shall be deemed to be the date on which the resolution has arrived at the registered office of the association, unless proof to the contrary is provided. If several copies of the proposed resolution have been sent, the date of receipt of the last of such shall be decisive.

The resolution in writing contained in one or more approved proposals must be supplemented by a statement, dated and signed by the management body, to the effect that the resolution signed by all members arrived at the registered office of the company on the date stated in such statement and bears all the required signatures. The proposal for a resolution in writing must indicate whether it is intended that all business on the agenda must be approved as a whole in order to arrive at a valid written resolution, or whether written approval is requested for each agenda item separately.

§4. The proposal for a resolution in writing sent may stipulate that the approval must reach the registered office of the association before a specified date in order to be eligible for a valid resolution in writing. If the unanimously adopted resolution in writing, in one or more copies, is not received in due time before that date, the signed approvals shall lose all legal force.

Article 18ter. Electronic General Assembly

1. Remote participation in the General Assembly by electronic means

§ 1. The members may participate in the General Assembly remotely by means of an electronic means of communication made available by the association. As far as compliance with the conditions for attendance and majorities is concerned, the members thus participating in the General Assembly shall be deemed to be present at the place where the General Assembly is held.

The capacity of member and the identity of the person who wishes to participate in the meeting shall be checked and guaranteed in the manner laid down in Rules of Procedure drawn up by the management body. Such rules and regulations shall also set out the manner in which it is established that a member shall participate in the General Assembly via the electronic means of communication and can therefore be considered present.

In order to guarantee the security of the electronic means of communication, the Rules of Procedure may lay down conditions for the use of the electronic means of communication.

The officers of the General Assembly shall be responsible for checking compliance with the conditions laid down by law, these Articles of Association and the Rules of Procedure and for determining whether a member is validly participating in the General Assembly via the electronic means of communication and can therefore be considered present.



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§2. The electronic means of communication made available by the association must at least enable the member to directly, simultaneously and continuously take cognizance of the discussions held during the meeting and to exercise their voting rights on all business which the meeting is called to transact.

§3. The notice convening the General Assembly shall contain a clear and precise description of the procedures laid down in the Rules of Procedure pursuant to §1 with regard to remote participation.

2. Exercise of voting rights by electronic means before the General Assembly (extension of the system of votes in writing)

Each member shall have the possibility to vote remotely by electronic means before the General Assembly in accordance with the arrangements set out in rules of procedure drawn up by the management body.

The capacity of members and the identity of the person who wishes to vote remotely before the General Assembly shall be checked and guaranteed in the manner laid down in rules of procedure drawn up by the management body.

The officers of the General Assembly shall be responsible for checking compliance with the arrangements referred to in the previous paragraphs and for establishing the validity of the remote votes cast.

3. Exercise of the right to ask question in writing by electronic means before the General Assembly

As from the notification of the convening notice, the members may put questions in writing to the directors, which will be answered during the meeting, provided that those members have complied with the formalities to be fulfilled in order to be admitted to the meeting. Such questions may be sent electronically to the company at the address specified in the notice convening the meeting.

The association must receive such questions in writing no later than the 8th day prior to the date of the General Assembly.

Article 19 – Minutes

Minutes of each General Assembly shall be drawn up by a member of the Secretariat or a person appointed by the President, at the beginning of the meeting, and shall be signed by that person and the President.

The minutes shall be made available in the Members section of the EUD website, where they shall be available to Full Members. Third parties who wish to have access to the minutes must submit a request to the General Assembly, which shall have full discretion with regard to whether or not to accede to the request.

Article 20 – Procedures

The procedures for voting and decision-making are laid down in the Rules of Procedure of the association. The General Assembly shall be led by a person, appointed by the Board, who may not be a Board member or a staff member.



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C – Board

Article 21 – Composition

The Association Board shall comprise five (5) members: one (1) President, one (1) Vice-President and three (3) ordinary Board members.

All Board members must - at all times - follow the principles as laid down in Article 5 of the Articles of Association as well as the EUD core terms and conditions and principles as laid down in Article 7 of the Rules of Procedure.

Article 22 – Powers and responsibilities

The Board shall have all powers which are not exclusively vested in the General Assembly. More specifically, the Board is authorised to:

- direct the EUD Secretariat with respect to the implementation of resolutions of the General Assembly and the Board;
- recruit and retain suitably qualified persons for the EUD Secretariat;
- be responsible for the finances of EUD.
- assess actions implemented pursuant to General Assembly resolutions and implement policy decisions as approved by the General Assembly.
- suspend or exclude Members where such members' activities are found to be in violation of the EUD Articles of Association, subject to approval by the General Assembly, in accordance with Article 10.
- recommend the revision or amendment of the Articles of Association and Rules of Procedure, subject to approval by the General Assembly, in accordance with Articles 17 and 32.
- review applications for each Membership category in accordance with the procedures set out in Article 8 of the Rules of Procedure.
- approve the final agenda for meetings of the General Assembly, after consultation with Full Members.

The Board shall never interfere with the internal affairs of Members.

Article 23 – Procedures

The Board shall meet at least four (4) times a year, or whenever circumstances so require.

The procedures for voting and decision-making are laid down in the Rules of Procedure of the Association.

Board meetings shall be chaired by the President. If the President is absent, the Vice-President shall chair the meeting. If both persons are not present, an ordinary Board member shall be elected from among the ordinary Board members present.

Minutes of each Board meeting shall be drawn up by the Executive Director, a Board member or a Secretary appointed by the President of the meeting at the beginning of the meeting and shall be signed by that person and the President.

The minutes shall be made available in the Members section of the EUD website, where they shall be available to Full Members. Third parties who wish to have access to the minutes must submit a request to the General Assembly, which shall have full discretion with regard to whether or not to accede to the request.



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Article 24 – President

Section 1: Powers and competences

The President shall have the authority to delegate his/her duties to other Board members and/or the Secretariat. The President shall be a member of the EUD Board and shall cooperate with the Executive Director and the Secretariat in achieving EUD's vision. He/she offers leadership to the Board, which determines the strategy, and the President is the person to whom the Executive Director is accountable.

Section 2: Responsibilities

The President shall represent EUD in external policy and political matters. Only in his/her absence can such responsibility be taken over by the Vice-President or delegated to any other Board member or the Executive Director.

For a clearly defined task, the President may delegate his/her right to represent EUD externally to another Board member or to the EUD Secretariat. In any case, the President shall be responsible for any decision or action taken by the delegate on his/her behalf.

The President may not make a public decision on behalf of EUD without consulting with the Board beforehand. The President shall steer the Board meetings after the agenda has been developed together with the Executive Director. He/she shall monitor the financial planning and financial reports and shall consult with the Executive Director on issues facing EUD. He/she shall promote the Board's role in strategic planning.

The President shall evaluate the performance of the Executive Director and the effectiveness of the other Board members in accordance with the procedures of Human Resource Management. He/she shall evaluate EUD's annual performance in relation to the achievement of the objectives and activities.

The President shall carry out other responsibilities as designated by the Board.

Article 25 – Vice-President

Section 1: Powers and competences

The Vice-President shall be a member of the EUD Board. He/she shall carry out the responsibilities of the EUD President when the latter is not available or when the latter has specifically delegated tasks.

Section 2: Responsibilities

The Vice-President reports to the President of EUD and works closely with the President and other EUD Board members.

The Vice-President shall carry out other responsibilities as specified by the Board.

Article 26 – Board members

Section 1: Powers and competences

The President and the Vice-President, as well as the ordinary Board members, shall have the powers as granted to them in the Association's current Articles of Association and Rules of Procedure. They shall report to the General Assembly.



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Section 2: Responsibilities

All Board members, including the President and Vice-President, shall attend all EUD Board meetings. In case of absence, Article 13(3) of the Rules of Procedure shall apply.

EUD Board members shall work voluntarily for tasks and accept them willingly, take full care of them and get them finished on time. They shall continue to be informed about EUD affairs, prepare themselves for meetings and review and evaluate minutes, reports and other documents.

Board members shall actively participate in EUDs' annual evaluation and strategic efforts.

D – Secretariat and Executive Director

Article 27 – Secretariat

Section 1: Powers and competences

The Secretariat shall be located at the registered location of the association.

The Secretariat shall have a function of representation for the tasks entrusted to it.

Every effort must be made to find a balance in gender and geography. A proactive approach must be taken with regard to the recruitment of deaf sign language users.

Section 2: Responsibilities

The role of the Secretariat shall be that of implementing the broad policy decisions of the management bodies. In accordance with Article 22, the Secretariat shall be responsible for the recruitment process.

Article 28 – Executive Director

Section 1: Powers and competences

The Executive Director shall report directly to the Board and shall coordinate the work of the Secretariat. In its day-to-day work, the Secretariat shall represent EUD in accordance with the provisions laid down in Article 24(2).

Section 2: Responsibilities

The Executive Director shall be responsible for the following tasks and shall be authorised to delegate each of these tasks to other staff members:

- Management of the EUD Secretariat and staff
- Networking with European institutions and relevant European NGOs
- Contact person for representatives of European institutions and relevant European NGOs and cooperating partners
- Main contact person for communication with members
- Attending relevant national and European activities or meetings, when delegated to do so by the President and/or when invited by Members
- Promoting the Deaf Community in all EUD Member States
- Management of project proposals, reports, applications and funds pursuant to relevant calls for projects by the European institutions
- Management of finances and cost control in cooperation with the Board
- Preparing meetings in cooperation with the Board, including all documentation and organisation.



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In all his/her tasks, the Executive Director shall support the Board and the General Assemblies in achieving the objectives and activities as laid down in Article 5.

Title IV – External representation

Article 29 – Representation in dealings with third parties

The Association shall be validly represented in dealings with third parties and in all instruments by the President or the Vice-President, each acting individually. All legal activities and acts, which bind the Association to anything and without a special power of attorney, shall be signed by the President or the Vice-President, each acting individually.

Within the framework of the day-to-day management, the association shall be validly represented in dealings with third parties and in all instruments by the Executive Director.

None of the aforementioned persons shall be required to provide evidence of his/her powers to third parties. The association shall also be validly represented for one or more specific matters by an intermediary, within the framework of his/her duties, to whom authorisation has been granted by the Board, or by the Executive Director within the framework of the day-to-day management.

Title V – Finances

Article 30 – Financial year

The financial year follows the calendar year; it begins on 1 January and ends on 31 December. The General Assembly has the power to change the dates of the financial year.

Article 31 – Sources of income

EUD's income comprises:

- a) Membership contributions;
- b) Grants, gratuities, contributions, donations, bequests and any other gifts, inter vivos or pursuant to a will, made in support of the general objective or a specific purpose of EUD;

The Board may, in exceptional circumstances, take out bank loans.

Title VI – Amendments and dissolution

Article 32 – Amendments

The General Assembly has the power to ratify and amend proposed amendments to the Articles of Association and the Rules of Procedure. Proposals for amendments may come from the Board or from at least one-fifth (1/5) of the Full Members. The draft amendment of the Articles of Association and Rules of Procedure shall be placed on the agenda and sent to all Full Members at least two (2) months prior to the start of the Annual General Assembly.

Amendments may only be adopted by the General Assembly in accordance with Article 17.



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Amendments to the Articles of Association and/or Rules of Procedure must be sent to the relevant authorities and published in the Schedules to the Belgian Official Gazette, in accordance with the legislation as laid down in Article 1.

Article 33 - Dissolution

The General Assembly has the power to dissolve the association. Proposals for dissolution may come from the Board or from at least one-fifth (1/5) of the Full Members.

The dissolution of the association shall be added to the agenda of the General Assembly and voting shall take place in accordance with Article 17.

In the event of dissolution, the General Assembly shall appoint two liquidators and determine their powers. The General Assembly shall also determine what is to be done with the assets of the organisation, which shall go to another not-for-profit organisation with objectives similar or related to those of the association.

Title VII – Communication

Article 34 – Official language

The language for all official documentation is Dutch if required by Belgian law.

Article 35 – Working language

The association's working language is written English and International Sign.

Article 36 – General Assembly and EUD activities

All EUD activities and General Assemblies shall be conducted in International Sign Language. Every effort shall be made to provide interpretation into national sign languages, subject to financial and structural constraints.

When an activity is also aimed at a wider, hearing audience, interpretation into a spoken language will be offered.

A proactive attitude will be adopted in recruiting deaf interpreters.

Title VIII – Final provisions

Article 37 – Applicable law and legally-binding text

The original Dutch text is the only legally-binding text.

The association is subject to the legislation as laid down in Article 1 of the current Articles of Association. Any part that is not regulated in these Articles of Association shall also be governed by the legislation as laid down in Article 1. Anything not expressly provided for in these Articles of Association shall be governed by the Code of Companies and Associations.

Article 38 – Interpretation of the Articles of Association

In the event of disagreement on the interpretation of the Articles of Association and the Rules of Procedure, the Board shall be authorised to act as arbitrator. The Rules of Procedure shall be subordinate to the Articles of Association as laid down in Article 1 of the Rules of Procedure of the Association.



EUROPEAN UNION OF THE DEAF

A European Non-Governmental Organisation in official liaison with
European Parliament, European Commission and the Council of Europe

Note:

The EUD statutes were approved by EUD Full Members during the EUD Extraordinary General Assembly on Saturday 27th February 2021. The outcome of the voting was the following:

For the statutes – 25 votes

Against the statutes – 0 votes

Abstentions – 2

EUD Full Members present during the EUD Extraordinary General Assembly were:

Austria	Helene Jarmer
Belgium	Helga Stevens & Alexandre Bloxs
Bulgaria	Sofiya Kalinova
Croatia	Jadranka Krstić
Cyprus	Anastasis Anastasiou
Czech Republic	Šárka Prokopiusová
Denmark	Lars Knudsen & Lea Hyldstrup
Estonia	Tiit Papp
Finland	Jaana Aaltonen & Cecilia Hanhikoski
France	Ronit Laquerrière-Leven & Vincent Cottineau
Germany	Helmut Vogel & Elisabeth Kaufmann
Greece	Georgios Gkintikas & Kordonouris Panagiotis
Hungary	Dr. Ádám Kósa & Margit Sáfrány
Iceland	Heiðís Dögg Eiríksdóttir & Hördis Anna Haraldsdóttir
Ireland	Lianne Quigley & Grace Nealon
Italy	Pier Alessandro Samuelli
Latvia	Sandra Gerenovska & Inese Immure
Lithuania	Kęstutis Vaišnora
Luxembourg	Fabio Giusti
Malta	Loran Ripard Xuereb
The Netherlands	Alice van der Garde
Norway	Niels Kristensen & Jannicke Kvitvær
Portugal	Pedro Costa & Shaiza Sadrudin Jethá
Romania	Paraschiv Elisabeta Vasilica
Slovakia	Jana Filipová
Slovenia	Anton Petrič
Spain	Concepción M ^a Díaz Robledo & M ^a Desamparados Miguet Soto
Sweden	Åsa Rut Henningsson & Malin Kvitvær Johansson
Switzerland	Dr. Tatjana Binggeli
United Kingdom	Linda Richards & Gloria Pullen

On Thursday 1st July 2021, the statutes were formally signed at the office of Notary De Doncker in the presence of Mark Wheatley (EUD), Helga Stevens (Doof Vlaanderen), Marie-Florence Devalet (FFSB), Pablo De Doncker (Notary) and Christine Van den Veken (Notary).