

# **Statutes of the Central European Section of the International Union for the Study of Social Insects e.V.**

(formerly „Deutschsprachige Sektion der Internationalen Union zum Studium sozialer Insekten e.V.“)

## **Paragraph 1 (Name and registered office)**

The association bears the name ‘Central European Section of the International Union for the Study of Social Insects e.V.’ and has its registered office in Würzburg. It is entered in the register of associations of the registry court under the number VR 222. The association is a section of the International Union for the Study of Social Insects (IUSSI).

## **Paragraph 2 (Purpose)**

The association pursues exclusively and directly charitable purposes within the meaning of the section ‘Tax-privileged purposes’ of the German Tax Code. The purpose of the association is to promote the study of social insects, such as ants, bees, wasps and termites, and preliminary stages of social coexistence in animals. This purpose is achieved in particular by organising scientific events and measures to improve the exchange of scientific information.

The association is a non-profit organisation and does not primarily pursue its own economic purposes. The association's funds may only be used for the purposes set out in the statutes. Members do not receive any payments from the association's funds. The exception to this is the Heinrich Kutter Prize (Paragraph 10). No person may benefit from expenses that are not related to the purpose of the association or from disproportionately high remuneration.

## **Paragraph 3 (Membership)**

The association comprises honorary members, full members, student members and supporting members. Any person working in the field of knowledge specified in §2 may become a full or student member of the association. Supporting members are persons or legal entities who financially support the objectives of the association. Honorary members are elected on the recommendation of the Executive Board, or the recommendation of a member of the association at a meeting of the association or by written or electronic survey. Honorary members have voting rights but are exempt from paying membership fees.

Members who are unemployed or whose income is significantly below the average income in Central Europe may apply to the Executive Board for a reduction in membership fees. The Executive Board decides on such applications.

## **Paragraph 4 (Termination of membership)**

Membership shall terminate upon death, resignation, or expulsion. Resignation must be submitted in writing by the member to the Executive Board at least three months before the end of the financial year.

The Executive Board may decide to expel a member if the member has violated the statutes or damaged the reputation of the association.

#### **Paragraph 5 (Financial year and membership fees)**

The financial year is the calendar year. At the beginning of the financial year, each member pays the annual fee set by the General Assembly. Each member pays a fee determined by the International Union for the Study of Social Insects to subsidise the IUSSI journal, *Insectes Sociaux*, and important general business expenses.

#### **Paragraph 6 (Organs of the association)**

The organs of the association are:

- a) the General Assembly and
- b) the Executive Board.

#### **Paragraph 7 (General Assembly)**

The Executive Board shall convene an ordinary General Assembly every two years. The invitation shall be sent in writing or by e-mail at least eight weeks before the assembly, stating the agenda. The ordinary General Assembly shall be combined with a scientific conference.

Extraordinary general assemblies can be initiated by the Executive Board. This shall be done on the Executive Board's own initiative, if at least two-thirds of the members of the extended Executive Board are in favour of it, or if one-third of the ordinary members request it in writing.

#### **Paragraph 8 (Duties of the General Assembly)**

The General Assembly discharges and elects the Executive Board and the cash auditors. It determines the membership fees. It decides on amendments to the statutes of the association or the dissolution of the association.

The General Assembly determines the basic principles of the association's activities. To this end, it may adopt resolutions containing requests and instructions to the Executive Board.

Every duly convened General Assembly shall constitute a quorum. A two-thirds majority of the members present is required for amendments to the statutes of the society or the dissolution of the association. Otherwise, decisions shall be taken by a simple majority. In the event of a tie, the decision shall first be taken by a runoff vote. If this does not change the result, the chairperson or their deputy shall have the deciding vote.

Resolutions shall be recorded in writing and signed by the Executive Board and the Secretary. The minutes shall be sent to the members by post or e-mail at the latest with the invitation to the next General Assembly.

### **Paragraph 9 (Executive Board)**

The Executive Board consists of

a) the Executive Board

1. the chairperson
2. two deputy chairpersons
3. the managing director, who is also the treasurer and secretary

b) the Extended Committee

1. the Executive Board
2. four additional members.

Each of the members of the Executive Board (chairperson, deputy chairperson, managing director) represents the association within the meaning of Section 26 of the German Civil Code (BGB), each acting alone. Deputy chairpersons and managing directors may only exercise their individual right of representation if the chairperson is prevented from doing so.

The Executive Board is elected for a term of two years by secret and written ballot or, upon resolution of the General Assembly, by other personal vote, based on proposals from the General Assembly. Re-election is possible. The person who receives the most votes from those present is elected to the individual positions.

If it is not possible to elect a new Executive Board before the end of the specified term, the Executive Board shall continue to manage the affairs of the association until the next ordinary or extraordinary General Assembly.

### **Paragraph 10 (Duties of the Executive Board)**

The chairperson convenes the meetings of the Executive Board and chairs the Executive Board meetings and General Assemblies. The Executive Board has a quorum if at least three members of the Executive Board are present.

Each newly elected Executive Board takes office on 1 January of the year following the election. The Executive Board may assign special tasks to members of the association. The Chairperson reports on the management of the association's affairs at the General Assembly.

The Managing Director maintains and administers the membership records and the association's funds and reports on the financial statements at the General Assembly. The financial statements are audited by two persons elected by the General Assembly before the Treasurer's report is submitted. The results of the audit are announced.

The secretary shall take minutes of each General Assembly and each board meeting, which shall be signed by them and the chairperson.

At the association's scientific conferences, the Executive Board shall appoint three members to a jury, which shall select the best student presentation and/or the best student poster from the scientific contributions of the student members and award them the Heinrich Kutter Prize.

**Paragraph 11 (Dissolution)**

In the event of dissolution or termination of the association or discontinuation of its previous purpose, the use of its assets shall be decided by resolution of a General Assembly or by a temporary written survey of the members. The assets shall be used for tax-privileged purposes. Resolutions on the future use of the assets may only be implemented after approval by the tax office.