



**INTERNATIONAL SONNENBERG
ASSOCIATION e. V.**

Articles of Association

**International Sonnenberg
Association e.V.
(ISA)**

**Decided at the general meeting
From 26.09.2025 in Helmstedt**

I. Basics

§1 Name, Registered Office, Association Year

- (1) The association bears the name "International Sonnenberg Association e.V. (ISA). He is registered with the Braunschweig District Court under the number VR 200328.
- (2) The registered office of the association is the town of Braunlage OT Sankt Andreasberg/Germany; where the ISA office is also located.
- (3) The association or financial year is the calendar year.

§2 Purpose and Tasks

- (1) The purpose of the association is to promote international attitudes, mutual respect in all areas of culture and the idea of international understanding.
- (2) In intellectual and political independence, the ISA promotes understanding between peoples and groups and wants to educate to respect for those who think differently. The ISA wants to help overcome prejudices. At the same time, this task serves the purpose of continuous further education, especially in the socio-political field, and the personal development of a sense of social responsibility.
- (3) As an association of the individual national Sonnenberg groups¹ and associations², the ISA strives to guarantee the political and intellectual independence of the entire Sonnenberg organization, to promote the internationality of its work and to promote its goals and tasks.
- (4) The association supports international cooperation between people of all walks of life and professions, of different political and religious beliefs, regardless of existing national and ethnic-cultural differences. A special focus is on promoting the further development of the European idea.
- (5) The educational, meeting and understanding work supported by the ISA is based on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of the United Nations and the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union. She understands this activity as social learning through general and professional further education
- (6) The purpose of the statutes is realised in particular by:
 - a) the implementation of educational events, international conferences, youth exchanges, family conferences and other projects for participants of different backgrounds and views. The range of topics includes political, ecological, historical and socially relevant offers.
 - b) the equal inclusion of people with support needs and social disadvantage in projects and events in the sense of diversity and inclusion.
 - c) the implementation of projects and events and the associated support for the socio-political emancipation and education of young people.
 - d) the joint accommodation of participants with the purpose of promoting encounters according to the concept of the adult education centre and the pedagogical principle of holistic, joint learning and action.

¹⁾ Groups: Association of individuals in one country.

²⁾ Associations: Registered legal organization in a country.

- (7) The ISA pursues exclusively and directly charitable purposes within the meaning of the section "Tax-privileged purposes" of the German Fiscal Code. It is selflessly active; it does not primarily pursue its own economic purposes. Funds of the association may only be used for the purposes set out in the statutes. The members do not receive any donations from the association's funds. No person may be favoured by expenses that are foreign to the purpose of the association or by disproportionately high remuneration.
- (8) In this respect, the ISA is also entitled to participate in associations or societies and to do everything that is conducive to the purpose of the association.

II. Membership

§3 Forms of Membership

- (1) Ordinary Membership
 - a) Anyone who has reached the age of 16 and supports the goals of Sonnenbergarbeit, regardless of nationality, can become a full member.
 - b) Legal entities can also become ordinary members. This applies in particular to the national Sonnenberg associations.
 - c) Applications for admission must be submitted in writing. The board of directors or a person appointed by the board decides on them within three months. The rejection of an application for admission does not need to be substantiated to the applicant.
 - d) The fee is due at the beginning of the calendar year, no later than 31 March of each year. Payment in instalments can be agreed.
- (2) Individual members organize themselves into groups in their own country with the support of the ISA.
- (3) Termination of Membership
 - a) Membership expires through death, extinction of a legal entity, withdrawal or exclusion of the member from the ISA .
 - b) Withdrawal from the ISA is only possible at the end of the calendar year. It must be notified to the board in writing at least 3 months in advance.
 - c) The board can exclude members who have violated the goals and interests of Sonnenberg's work.
 - The member shall be invited to submit a written statement within a period of three weeks. The board decides within 2 weeks after the expiry of the set deadline. The decision must be communicated in writing to the expelled member with the reasons for it.
 - The member may appeal against the exclusion within four weeks of notification. The objection has no suspensive effect. The General Assembly decides on the objection with a simple majority.

III. Organization

§4 Organ of the Vereins

- a) General Assembly
- b) Board of Directors
- c) Cash audit
- d) Management

§5 The General Assembly

- (1) Every year, an ordinary general meeting of the association takes place, which can also be held via video conference.
 - a) The ordinary general meeting is convened by the board with the sending of the agenda at least four weeks before the meeting.
 - b) Extraordinary general meetings are convened by the board as required. An extraordinary general meeting must be convened within one month if at least 20% of the members request it in writing.
 - c) The period between the convocation and the holding of the extraordinary general meeting must be at least one week and may not exceed 4 weeks.
 - d) The invitation is generally sent with an invitation letter by e-mail and, if necessary, by post. The letter of invitation shall be deemed to have been received by the member if it has been sent to the last email address or postal address provided by the member to the association in writing.
- (2) The ordinary general meeting has the following tasks:
 - a) Discussion and approval of the annual report and annual plan.
 - b) Discharge of the board.
 - c) Election of the board.
 - d) Election of the auditors. Two persons who are not members of the board are to be elected.
 - e) Resolution on amendments to the statutes.
 - f) Adoption of a fee regulation.
 - g) Decision on objections by expelled members.
 - h) Appointment of honorary members.
- (3) Every member has the right to submit motions to the General Assembly. They must be submitted in writing to the board at least two weeks before the general meeting. The board presents them to the general assembly.

- (4) The General Assembly has a quorum if it is duly convened, regardless of the number of members present.
- (5) The general meeting is chaired by a member of the board. During the receipt of the annual report, the vote on discharge and the election of the new board, the general meeting is chaired by a member elected by the meeting.
- (6) For reasons of international equivalence, the following applies to voting: Each country has one vote, regardless of the number of members there, has the same weight. Before the start of the General Assembly, the chairman must be informed who is entitled to vote for the members of a Land.
- (7) The vote is decided by a simple majority of the votes cast. In the event of a tie, the vote of the chairperson of the meeting shall decide.
- (8) A motion for the dissolution of the association can only be dealt with in an extraordinary general meeting. It must be signed by half of the voting members or two-thirds of the board members and submitted in writing to the office at least three weeks before the general meeting.
 - a) It must be sent to the members at least two weeks before the general meeting. The motion for dissolution can in no case be subsequently placed on the agenda as an urgent motion of a general meeting for resolution.
 - b) The motion for dissolution requires a three-quarters majority of the members present and entitled to vote in order to be accepted.
 - c) If the board objects to a resolution of dissolution, another extraordinary general meeting must be convened 2 months later at the earliest, the resolutions of which are final. A resolution on dissolution requires a three-quarters majority of the voting members present.
- (9) A record of the resolutions and voting results of the general meeting must be drawn up. The minutes must be signed by the chairman and another member of the board. It will be sent to all ordinary members by e-mail or post.

§6 The Board of Directors

- (1) The board is elected by the general assembly for a period of 3 years. Re-election is possible.
- (2) It consists of the chairperson and up to three other board members. The concrete number of other board members is decided by the general meeting with a simple majority before new elections.
- (3) He represents the association in and out of court through two board members together.
- (4) The board meets as needed, but at least twice a year. The sessions can also be held digitally.
- (5) The board has a quorum if at least 3 members, including the chairperson, are present. It decides by a simple majority of votes. In the event of a tie, the vote of the chairperson chairing the meeting shall be decisive.

- (6) The Board of Directors submits business plans, annual financial statements and annual reports to the General Assembly and submits its report to it.
- (7) In addition, it informs the members of the ISA about important matters, developments, results and projects within the ISA and its cooperation partners.

§7 Cash audit

- (1) The cash audit consists of two persons elected by the General Assembly for a period of three years.
- (2) It checks the financial management of the association, including the financial and economic transactions, for correctness and regularity and reports to the general meeting on its findings and the results of the annual audit.
- (3) In particular, it examines the annual financial statements and submits its report to the General Assembly for further resolution.

§8 Management

- (1) The board can appoint a management board if necessary. The general meeting must be informed of this.
- (2) The management is voluntary or full-time.
- (3) It conducts the business of the association within the framework of the applicable law, its business instructions and the requirements of the general meeting and the board.
- (4) It participates in the meetings of the board in an advisory capacity.
- (5) It reports to the board quarterly on the current development and financial situation of the association as well as immediately on important events and special incidents in the association. The contact person is the chairperson of the board of directors, in the case of deputy, the other members of the board of directors with power of representation in accordance with § 26 of the German Civil Code.

§9 Honorary Membership

- (1) Representatives, members, friends and supporters of Sonnenberg's work who have rendered outstanding services can be named honorary members of the ISA or accepted as honorary members of the ISA by decision of the General Assembly

§10 Financing of membership fees

- (1) Membership obliges an annual fee.
- (2) The General Assembly sets the annual minimum contribution and adopts the fee regulations. The contribution may vary depending on special circumstances.

- (3) The type and amount of the contribution for legal entities are agreed with the board of directors.

§11 Realisation of assets in the event of dissolution

- (1) In the event of the dissolution or dissolution of the ISA or in the event of the cessation of tax-privileged purposes, the assets remaining after the fulfilment of all liabilities will be transferred to the "Stiftung Interkulturelles Haus Sonnenberg"

§12 Motions for amendments to the statutes

- (1) Motions for amendments to the statutes must be submitted to the board three months before the general meeting.
- (2) An amendment to the statutes requires a two-thirds majority of the members present and entitled to vote in order to be adopted

§13 Binding nature of these statutes

- (1) The statutes or rules of procedure of the national ISA associations or groups may not contradict the above statutes

Helmstedt, 26.09.2025

For the board:



Dorothea Göcke



Tilman Zschiesche

Note:

In case of doubt, the German version of these statutes shall apply

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