



## **Statute of the EU Democrats**

Alliance for a Europe of Democracies

### **A. GENERAL PROVISIONS**

#### **Article 1: Name and Seat**

The EU Democrats, hereafter called “the Association”, is an international non-profit association of political organisations, movements and individuals at the European level, and is registered in Denmark as a non-profit organisation.

The seat of the association is situated at Nordkystvejen 2F 8961 Allingaebro.

The registration number is CVR-nr. 31 63 99 21

#### **Article 2: Principles and Objectives**

Having regard to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the European Convention on Human Rights and their attached protocols;

And in respect of

The general principle of the right of individuals and peoples to freedom and self-determination;

A spirit of equality, mutual respect and tolerance;

The principle of non-discrimination on grounds of sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation.

It is the main objective of the Association,

To safeguard and strengthen fundamental democratic principles and accountable representation across Europe and in regard to the structures of the European Union.

And it therefore commits itself to the following objectives:

To campaign for a transparent and democratically controlled EU that is less centralised and more flexible, bringing it closer to the citizens of Europe;

To work towards establishing effective structures for devolving powers within the European Union;

To sustain diversity and cooperation at a European level among free peoples able to regulate themselves in accordance with mutually agreed common standards;

To uphold freedom of political expression and association across Europe and especially within the structures of the EU;

To promote a political environment in which movements, political parties and other political organizations are given equal opportunities to voice their concerns and advance their political positions;

To defend civil liberties and ensure that no characteristics of a totalitarian nature emerge in the continuing political development of the European Union;

To pursue true subsidiarity and self-rule ensuring that democracy is preserved on the basis of the peoples' parliaments in Member States, over which the citizens exercise democratic control.

Towards these objectives, it is the operational aim of the Association to promote issues akin to our members' vision and political objectives. The EUD will participate in European elections.

The EUD is open to all members who subscribe to democratic and non-racist principles.

### **Article 3: Duration**

The Association is formed for an indefinite duration.

## **B. COMPOSITION AND ADMINISTRATION**

### **Article 4: Establishing Membership**

On a written application, membership shall be granted to organisations, movements and individuals across Europe that subscribe to the objectives laid down in this statute, after such application having been approved by the Board acting by the majority of its members.

Members shall maintain their name, identity and autonomy of action within the scope of their national and regional responsibilities.

### **Article 5: Membership fees**

Membership fees shall be set at a maximum of 10,000 euro annually.

MEPs, members of national parliaments and their salaried staff may pay an annual fee to the EUD.

### **Article 6: Termination of membership**

Apart from death of individual members, or the dissolution of a member organisation, membership shall end with resignation or dismissal.

### Resignation

A member may resign from the Association at any time, giving notice to the Board of the decision to resign. The resignation may come into effect immediately or as otherwise specified in the letter of resignation. No funds shall be reimbursed upon resignation.

### Dismissal

A member may be expelled for not abiding by the principles and objectives of Article 2 of the statute, by the Association's political programme, or by not fulfilling the conditions for membership of the Association.

Such a decision is to be taken by the Board acting by a simple majority of its members on a proposal from the Board.

The dismissal shall come into force at the end of the month following the decision.

In particular cases of a severe breach of the principles and values of the Association, a dismissal may have direct effect.

### **Article 7: Organs**

The Association is administered by the following organs:

The Congress

The Board

The Secretariat

### **Article 8: The Congress**

#### Composition of Congress

The Congress shall consist of one representative per member organisations/party, members on an individual capacity and all members of the Board. The Congress is open to individuals and other observers on a non-voting capacity.

The number of representatives shall be determined by the Founding Congress and decided upon by every Congress for the next Congress.

The budget allocated for each Congress is decided by the board.

#### Responsibilities of the Congress

The Congress (and board) shall meet once a year.

Every member organization will have one vote each. Every board member will have one vote each.

The Congress will:

Amend the Statute of the Association;

Appoint and dismiss members of the Board;

Determine and approve the political programmes of the Association.

#### Decision-making in the Congress

Decisions in the Congress shall be taken by a simple majority of votes cast.

Every member shall have the possibility to represent a maximum of one other member with the written approval of that member.

The Congress shall be summoned at least seven days before the appointed date. The agenda shall be set by the Board.

Decisions shall only be taken on issues listed on the agenda.

#### **Article 9: The Board**

The annual Congress elects a board, a President and Vice-President. The latter acts only when the President cannot act.

The Board will be composed of one member per participating party/organization plus President and Vice-President.

Every party has the right but not the obligation to appoint a board member.

The Board approves the annual budget.

Information campaign budgets and the implementation of political decisions are decided by the Board.

Decisions in the Board shall be taken by a simple majority of votes cast.

#### Annual Meeting

Every member can have a point on the agenda. It must be sent ten days in advance.

Extraordinary annual meetings can be decided by simple majority.

#### Composition of the Party

The composition of the party is decided by the board by simple majority. New members must be accepted by the board.

#### Amending the EUD Statute

The regulation of the EUD can be amended by simple majority at an annual meeting where it is put on the agenda in advance.

### **Article 11: The Secretariat**

The Secretary and other EUD staff shall provide support and assistance to the organs of the Association under the supervision of the President.

The Secretary and other Secretariat staff may also attend all Board meetings in a non-voting capacity.

### **B. Sister Foundation**

The EU Democrats shall have a sister foundation.

The EUD President and Vice-President are automatically members of the board of the foundation.

The foundation's board shall be composed of at least 50% of the EUD board.

### **C. FINANCIAL AND OTHER PROVISIONS**

#### **Article 12: Annual Accounts and Audits**

The financial year of the Association shall run from 1 January to 31 December. The Association shall be financed by membership fees, donations and other legal contributions.

The annual accounts shall be audited by an auditor appointed by the Board.

#### Auditor and Payments

The Board shall appoint a professional auditor (approved by the European Parliament).

The Board approves the annual budget.

All costs are approved by the President. The treasurer and President provide an overview of the accounts.

All payments are made by the Secretary or the person authorized to make payments.

#### **Article 13: Dissolution**

The voluntary dissolution of the Association shall require a two-thirds decision by the Congress. Upon dissolution, any assets and liabilities shall be divided among the members according to their financial contributions.

#### **Article 14: Final Provisions**

Any points not expressly covered by this statute shall be governed in accordance with standard legal practice relating to non-profit organisations and associations.