

ARTICLES OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF INFORMATION

As of March 2022

ARTICLE 1: NAME, REGISTERED OFFICE, AREA AND NATURE OF ACTIVITY

- 1.1 **Name:** International Society for the Study of Information (abbreviation: IS4SI)
- 1.2 **Registered office:** Vienna.
- 1.3 **Area of activity:** Worldwide.
- 1.4 **Nature of activity:** The activities of the Society are not aimed at making a profit.

ARTICLE 2: PURPOSE

- 2.1 **Overall purpose.**
To promote global cooperation in the sciences of information, information technology and the information society as a field in its own right through the development of common concepts whose translation into practice contributes to global problem solving in the information age.
- 2.2 **Individual purposes.**
 - To carry out basic theoretical research, whether in natural, technical, social or human science disciplines, insofar as these deal with information, and for this purpose to make use of transdisciplinary and complexity thinking.
 - To orient the acquisition and archiving of theoretical knowledge in the field of information, to apply it to technical and social innovation for the betterment of society.
 - To build the scientific foundation of appropriate educational programmes in information studies.
 - To establish the framework for communication and exchange of views on the issue of information between and within scientists, engineers, philosophers, artists and students as well as with practitioners, business representatives, politicians and other opinion leaders and the public in order to promote scientific research.

ARTICLE 3: RESOURCES

- 3.1 **Intangible resources.**
 - Conferences every two years (a year corresponding to the calendar year).
 - Teacher exchanges, lectures, meetings with stakeholders and the general public concerned.
 - Publication of conference proceedings, journals, book series.
 - Joint research, development and transfer projects.
 - Pooling of resources.
- 3.2 **Tangible resources.**
 - Membership fees (see article 5.1).
 - Donations and grants from public and private bodies.
 - Conference fees.

ARTICLE 4: MEMBERSHIP

- 4.1 **Individual membership.**
Researchers, developers, practitioners in the field.
- 4.2 **Institutional membership.**
University and non-university organisations in the field. An institution may nominate up to two representatives.
- 4.3 **Honorary membership.**
Individuals with outstanding contributions to the development of the field.

4.4 **Application, admission and selection.**

Applications can be made online and offline and must include short biographies (individual membership) or organisational mission statements (institutional membership). The Society's Board of Directors decides on admission. Honorary members shall be selected by the Board of Directors for special recognition of their services (see 5.2).

4.5 **Termination.**

- In the event of death (individual membership) or dissolution of the organisation (institutional membership).
- In the event of resignation.
- In the event the Board of Directors considers the membership to be against the purpose of the Society.
- In the event of non-payment of the membership fee. The Board of Directors decides thereon (article 5.2).

4.6 **Rights.**

- Participation in all events organised by IS4SI.
- Active and passive voting rights (individual and honorary membership) for the Board of Directors.
- Participation in all votes.
- Information about the Society's activities and financial management at General Meetings (see article 5.1).
- Convocation of an Extraordinary General Meeting (quorum 10 per cent) (see article 5.1).

ARTICLE 5: ORGANISATION

5.1 **General meeting.**

- Ordinary General Meeting: Every two years, in conjunction with the biennial conferences.
- Extraordinary General Meeting: At any time, as soon as a quorum of ten per cent of the members demands it.
- Invitations: Via email three months in advance by the Board of Directors.
- Chairperson: President and/or Co-President. In the event of absence of the (Co-)President, the immediate former (Co-)President. In the absence of the former immediate (Co-)President, the President-Designate and/or the Co-President-Designate. After the election, the chairmanship changes according to the change of presidency (see article 5.2).
- The General Meeting shall constitute a quorum irrespective of the number of members attending. The holding of virtual General Meetings (online) is permissible.
- Agenda:
 - Mandatory at every Ordinary General Meeting:
 - Discussion of the activity report of the past period.
 - Financial report.
 - Formal approval of the actions of the Board of Directors.
 - Discussion of the activities for the coming period.
 - Election of the Board of Directors (see article 5.2).
 - Appointment of two auditors (see article 5.6).
 - Determination of the amount of the membership fee.
 - Optionally:
 - Discussion of and proposals for amendments to the Articles.
 - Dissolution of the Society (see article 6).
- Votes: Each person who is an individual member, representative of an institutional member or honorary member shall have one vote (see article 4.2). Delegation of voting rights shall not be permissible. Simple majority of votes.

5.2 **Board of Directors.**

- **Duties:**
 - To carry out the decisions of the General Meeting and other activities in pursuit of the Society's purpose (see article 2) and to manage the Society's finances.
 - To prepare the General Meetings and invitations to General Meetings (see article 5.1).
 - To admit, select and expel members (see articles 4.4 and 4.5).
 - To appoint Honorary Presidents (see article 5.3).
- **Composition:** At least fifteen Board members.
 - President.
 - Co-President (optional).
 - President-Designate.
 - Co-President-Designate (optional).
 - Immediate former President.
 - Immediate former Co-President (optional).
 - Vice-President for Secretarial Affairs.
 - Vice-President for Financial Affairs.
 - Vice-President for Inter- and Transdisciplinary Affairs.
 - Vice-President for Institutional Membership.
 - Vice-President for Special Interest Groups (SIG).
 - Vice-President for Regional Chapters.
 - Vice-President for Archiving.
 - Vice-President for Research.
 - Vice-President for Educational Affairs.
 - Vice-President for Conferences.
 - Vice-President for Publications.
 - Vice-President for Communication.
- **Election:** The (re-)election of the Board of Directors shall take place at the Ordinary General Meeting, which shall be held in conjunction with the conferences every two years. The General Meeting elects the President-Designate (and optionally the Co-President-Designate) as well as the Vice-Presidents for the coming period. The President for the coming period shall be the President-Designate of the previous period; Co-President for the coming period shall be the Co-President-Designate, if any. The immediate former President for the coming period shall be the President of the previous period; the same shall apply to the Co-President of the previous period. The President and/or Co-President shall chair the conference at the end of the coming period. Any member or representative of an institutional member "in good standing" shall be eligible for election.
- **Term of office:** Two years, at least until the election of the new Board of Directors. Re-election is possible.
- **Co-optation:** In the event of the unavailability, resignation or death of members of the Board of Directors or the dissolution of the organisation represented, the Board of Directors may co-opt members or representatives until the next General Meeting.
- **Chairperson:** The President and/or Co-President. In the absence of the President or Co-President, the immediate former President and/or former Co-President. In the event of the absence of the Co-President, the President-Designate and/or Co-President-Designate.
- **Votes:** Simple majority of votes. One vote per person. Voting can be done electronically. All Board members shall be invited to vote.
- **External representation:** The President, the Vice-President for Secretarial Affairs and the Vice-President for financial affairs together. If the Vice-President for Secretarial Affairs or the Vice-President for financial affairs is unavailable, the Board of Directors shall appoint another Vice-President. The persons authorised to represent the Society externally may grant a power of attorney to represent the Society externally or to sign on its behalf (power of representation of the General Secretary).

5.3 **Honorary Presidents.**

Leading academics or public figures with outstanding contributions to the development of the field. They must be honorary members.

- **Duties.** Offering advice to the Board of Directors.
- **Number, appointment and chairmanship.** The Board of Directors decides thereon (article 5.2).

5.4 **Founding Presidents.**

The Founding Presidents are the persons who chaired the conference at which the decision to found IS4SI was taken.

- Duties: Offering advice to the Board of Directors.

5.5 **Special interest groups (SIG) and regional chapters.**

Can be formed according to Board resolutions.

5.6 **General secretary.**

The General Secretary is responsible for supporting the Board of Directors in all administrative matters and for representing the Society externally (article 5.2). The General Secretary is appointed by the Board of Directors.

5.7 **Auditors.**

- Duties: The audit of the financial management and the report thereon to the General Meeting (see article 5.1).
- Number: Two.
- Appointment: By the General Meeting (see article 5.1). All persons who are not members of the Board of Directors are eligible for election.

5.8 **Arbitral tribunal.**

- Duties: Dispute resolution.
- Number of arbitrators: Three.
- Selection: Any person intending to refer a matter to arbitration shall nominate an arbitrator. Thereafter, the Board of Directors shall invite the other party to the dispute to nominate another arbitrator. Both arbitrators shall nominate a third arbitrator. Members or representatives of institutional members who do not belong to a body whose activities are in dispute are eligible for election.
- Chairperson: The third arbitrator.
- Votes: Simple majority of votes after hearing the parties. The arbitral award shall be final.

ARTICLE 6: DISSOLUTION AND LIQUIDATION

6.1 **Dissolution:** A General Meeting may resolve to dissolve the Society by a two-thirds majority of the votes cast.

6.2 **Liquidation:** In the event that assets of the Society exist, the General Meeting shall appoint liquidators. After payment of any debts, the remaining assets shall be donated to charitable societies or associations with a comparable purpose.

-----End of translation-----

Vienna, 26 September 2022

With reference to my oath, I herewith certify that the above translation is a true and accurate translation of the attached copy of the original document.

Michael Kucharski