STATUTE

of the East European Network in Philosophy of Science (EENPS)

(Adopted by the Assembly of EENPS at the EENPS 2018 conference in Bratislava; amended by the Assembly of EENPS at a virtual extraordinary meeting in 2025)

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1. Name and Coverage

1.1 The name of the network is "The East European Network for Philosophy of Science", also called "EENPS" or “the Network”.

1.2 EENPS is a network of philosophers of science and researchers from related disciplines working primarily, but not exclusively, at academic institutions in East and Central Europe.

2. Aims, Means, and Activities

2.1 The general purpose of the East European Network for Philosophy of Science is to promote and advance the philosophy of science in East and Central Europe.

2.2 The specific aims of EENPS are to:

(i) establish and strengthen contacts and collaborations among philosophers of science in East and Central Europe through regular meetings, exchange of visitors, common research projects, formation of research groups, etc.

(ii) encourage and facilitate the sharing of information regarding philosophy of science amongst the members of the Network;

(iii) encourage and facilitate, at all levels, the communication of philosophical research to the general public.

2.3 The aims of EENPS are to be achieved through:

(i) organization of the EENPS biennial conference, regional or local seminars and workshops;

(ii) engagement in outreach activities involving social media;

(iii) realization of research projects, publications, and other tasks that are connected to the aims of EENPS.

2.4 The EENPS biannual conference (the EENPS conference for short) will be organized in every even year, starting from the Inaugural conference in 2016.

(i) The Expression of Interest for hosting the EENPS conference has to be sent to the Steering Committee (SC) of EENPS at most six months after the last EENPS conference.

(ii) The Expression of Interest should contain the following elements:

a. A declaration that the travel and accommodation expenses for at least two keynote speakers, reception and coffee breaks will be covered by the host;

b. A description of the venue, providing evidence that it is suitable for holding a conference of at least 50 participants and that it is supplied with presentation equipment;

c. A suggestion for a Chair of the Local Organizing Committee (LOC). The Chair of the LOC should be a member of EENPS;

(iii) A month after the deadline of the Call for Expression of Interest, the SC announces its decisions about the host of the next EENPS conference, the Chair of LOC and the two co-Chairs of the Program Committee (PC). The two co-Chairs of the PC should be members of EENPS and should not be from the same country of residence;

(iv) The co-Chairs of the PC, together with the members of the SC, suggest potential members of the PC. The SC decides on the final list of the PC, which should contain at least 12 members. No more than two PC members should be from the same country of residence.

(v) The co-Chairs of the PC are responsible for:

a. suggesting members of the PC;

b. the supervision of the evaluation of all submissions by the PC members according to the established blind-review procedure of EENPS;

c. deciding on the final list of accepted papers. When assembling the final list, the PC co-Chairs should follow the practice of non-discrimination and should aim at a gender and geographical balance without making compromises with the quality of the accepted papers;

d. creating the conference program (in cooperation with the Chair of LOC).

(vi) The Chair of the LOC is responsible for:

a. securing the necessary funding for the EENPS conference (see 2.4 (ii));

b. deciding on the members of the LOC (optimally 5 to 7 persons);

c. drafting and disseminating the CFP texts;

d. deciding on the keynote speakers which should be chosen from a list suggested by the SC;

e. receiving the submissions and preparing them for a blind review;

f. drafting and disseminating the preliminary as well as the final program of the conference with a close cooperation with the PC co-Chairs;

g. communicating with the prospective and approved participants in the conference;

h. preparing practical information for the participants in the conference;

3. Membership

3.1 Admission to EENPS is free of any fees and open to individuals of all nationalities. There is no limit of the maximum number of members.

3.2 The applicants should have research interests related to philosophy of science broadly construed.

3.3 Applications for admission of new members should be sent by e-mail to the SC or by filling in a form available on the official website of EENPS.

3.4 The applicants should provide information about their current position and affiliation as well as contact info (including email address).

3.5 Membership of EENPS terminates:

(i) through death of individuals;

(ii) by resignation or expulsion;

(iii) upon the dissolution of the Network;

3.6 A member of EENPS may be expelled for a significant violation of the Statute of EENPS or other conduct that contradicts the aims and values of EENPS. The Assembly votes on the expulsions with a two-thirds majority of votes.

3.7 All members of EENPS have the right to participate in all activities of EENPS, and have access to all information, resources and benefits of the academic community that are provided by EENPS.

3.8 Any member is entitled to vote and is eligible for election into the governing bodies of EENPS.

3.9 All members are obliged to support and promote the purpose and aims of EENPS, as well as to observe this Statute and the decisions of the governing bodies of EENPS. A member should not engage in any conduct that violates this Statute and the values and principles of EENPS.

4. Governing Bodies

4.1 EENPS has the following governing bodies:

(i) Assembly;

(ii) Steering Committee (SC);

(iii) Coordinator;

(iv) Deputy Coordinator;

(v) Secretary;

(vi) Nomination Committee.

5. Assembly

5.1 The Assembly is made up of all members of EENPS.

5.2 The regular meeting of the Assembly normally takes place biennially, at the EENPS conference (Ordinary meeting of the Assembly). The Steering Committee issues a call for the Ordinary meeting of the Assembly.

5.3 An Extraordinary meeting of the Assembly can be called:

(i) by a petition of at least one tenth of the members of the Assembly; or

(ii) by decision of the Steering Committee.

Extraordinary meetings follow the regular schedules of four weeks announcement period and two weeks deadline for suggestions of the topics on the agenda by members. The meeting and the discussion can take place virtually.

5.3.1 The ordinary and the extraordinary meeting of the Assembly takes place in person, virtually, or in a hybrid format when some members participate in person and some attend the meeting virtually.

5.3.2 Voting takes place in person during ordinary and extraordinary assembly meetings that are attended in person. In case of virtual or hybrid meetings, voting takes place electronically. The electronic voting is organized with the help of online platforms accessible to all members within 7 days after the ordinary or extraordinary assembly meeting. Members have 7 days to cast their votes electronically. Members voting electronically will count as present.

5.4 The Assembly is responsible for all the decision making, execution and supervision of all the activities of EENPS, both global and local. In particular, the Assembly:

(i) outlines broadly the activity of EENPS for the coming two years;

(ii) reviews and accepts the report of the Steering Committee on the Network's activities during the past two-year term;

(iii) receives and accepts the proposals for further activities prepared by the Steering Committee;

(iv) decides about cases of expulsion of members from the Network;

(v) reviews and votes on the revisions of the articles of this Statute, according to the defined statute amendment procedures;

(vi) appoints special commissions, working groups or teams to carry out or enquire into particular issues, or tasks, and later reviews their reports;

(vii) elects the Steering Committee;

(viii) votes on removal of any members of the Steering Committee;

(ix) votes on a dissolution of the Network (see Article 9).

5.5 The Assembly is chaired by the Coordinator of the Network, or the Deputy Coordinator, or eventually, by the oldest present member of the Network.

5.6 A call for a meeting of the Assembly will be emailed at least four weeks prior to the date of the meeting and it will include the Agenda of the meeting (a list of issues to be discussed at the meeting).

5.7 Proposals and issues to be discussed and decided upon by the Assembly may be submitted by any member of the Network to the Steering Committee through the Coordinator or the Secretary at least two weeks before the scheduled date of the meeting.

5.8 A quorum for the Ordinary or Extraordinary meetings of the Assembly will be constituted if at least 30 members are present. If the quorum is not met, the members present at the Assembly meeting can decide by the majority vote to proceed without the quorum.

5.9 The Assembly will only act on proposals and issues that are on the Agenda, and which are received according to Section 5.7.

5.10 The Assembly decides by a majority vote of the present members, except for (a) amendments to this Statute, or (b) a vote on the dissolution of the Network, or (c) a vote for removal of a member from the Steering Committee, for which a two-thirds majority is required. In case of a tie, the Coordinator will have a second vote to resolve the issue.

5.11 The number of votes at the Assembly meeting cast by the members from the host country can't be more than one fifth.

5.12 Only the members of EENPS can vote at the Assembly meetings.

5.13 Voting at the Assembly meeting can be done remotely through a proxy, who are members of the Network. A member can act as a proxy provided that they present a written and signed statement by the absent member whom they are representing. The statement and the signature can be digital.

5.14 The Assembly decides on the activities in the next period of two years and creates teams of volunteers who will be in charge of the activity.

5.15. Each team will have a team leader. The team leader can ask the Steering Committee to replace some of the team members who are unresponsive or do not contribute to the work of the team.

5.16 The request to replace team members can be made remotely and independently of the biannual meetings, i.e. at any time.

6. Steering Committee

6.1 The Steering Committee (SC) of EENPS is composed of 10 persons, who are members of the Network and who are elected by the Assembly, normally at its Ordinary meeting, during the EENPS biannual conference. There cannot be more than two members of SC who are from the same country of residence.

6.2 The members of SC serve for a four-year term. For reasons of continuity, the term of a half of the members of SC starts and ends two years after the term of the other half. To ensure that, the Assembly elects new members of SC every two years to replace those members whose term of service has expired or terminated (see Section 3.5).

6.3 The Assembly elects the new members among those proposed by the Nomination Committee. (See article 10, section 10.2 for details about the first election, which will take place in 2020.) The newly elected members join the Steering Committee immediately after their election by the Assembly.

6.4 At its first meeting, the Steering Committee elects among its members, with a majority vote, a Coordinator, a Deputy Coordinator and a Secretary, called "the Officers". The Officers cannot be from the same country of residence. The Coordinator, the Deputy Coordinator and the Secretary tenure is for two years but they may be elected for two consecutive terms.

6.5 The Steering Committee is the governing body of the Network and it is responsible for all the decision making and execution activities of the Network. The Steering Committee is chaired by the Coordinator of the Network. Its tasks are to:

(i) supervise and coordinate the execution of all the activities of EENPS;

(ii) decide on the host of the biennial conference of EENPS;

(iii) act as the Scientific Committee of the biennial conference of EENPS, whose tasks include the selection of the Program Committee, the creation of list of prospective invited speakers, and deciding on the publication of selected proceedings from the conference;

(iv) prepare and share with the Assembly, a report about the activities of the Network;

(v) propose to the Assembly a set of the Network's activities for the coming two-year term.

(vi) appoint a Nomination Committee as stipulated in Article 8;

(vii) decide on matters not explicitly covered by this Statute.

6.6 A simple majority of the Steering Committee will constitute a quorum.

6.7 In case of a tie the Coordinator will decide.

6.8 The Steering Committee may discuss and decide upon particular issues remotely (i.e. via email, Skype or any other mean of electronic communication), in which case a majority of all members of the Steering Committee will be required to confirm the decision. In case of a tie the Coordinator of the Network will decide.

6.9 The Steering Committee should meet remotely at least once a year. The SC meetings will be called by the Coordinator or by request of any three members of SC. The meeting is chaired by the Coordinator, by the Deputy Coordinator, or by the oldest member of the Steering Committee present.

6.10 A member of the Steering Committee may resign at any time by sending a resignation letter to the Steering Committee. The resignation takes effect upon approval by the Steering Committee.

6.11 Members of the Steering Committee may be removed by the Assembly.

7. Responsibilities of the Officers

7.1 The Coordinator of the Network has the following functions and responsibilities:

(i) acts as a coordinator of the Steering Committee;

(ii) chairs the meetings of the Steering Committee;

(iii) chairs the meetings of the Assembly;

7.2 The Deputy Coordinator of the Network acts as a stand in for the Coordinator in case of hindrance of the Coordinator or as determined by the Coordinator himself (herself).

7.3 The Secretary of the Network:

(i) organizes and assists in administration of all the tasks of the Network, the Steering Committee and the Assembly;

(ii) assists in the preparation and the distribution of the materials for all meetings of the governing bodies of the Network;

(iii) prepares minutes and keeps records of all the meetings of the governing bodies;

(iv) assists the Coordinator in planning the administrative and organizational needs of the governing bodies and subcommittees of the Network;

(v) attends all the meetings of the Network.

8. Nomination Committee

8.1 The sole responsibility of the Nomination Committee is to make sure that there are at least x+2 candidates for members of the Steering Committee, where x is the number of the members of the SC whose term of service has expired or terminated by the Assembly.

8.2 The Nomination Committee is appointed by the current Steering Committee at least 6 months before the Ordinary meeting of the Assembly.

8.3 The Nomination Committee issues a call for nominations at least six months before the Ordinary meeting of the Assembly. Nominations can be proposed by all members of the Network and the nominees must be members of EENPS.

8.4 The Nomination Committee nominates at least x+2 candidates for members of the Steering Committee. Candidates must be members of EENPS and are required to prepare a short statement, that includes a brief bio and ideas on how to further the aims and activities of the Network.

8.5 The statements of the nominees are distributed to all members of the Network by the Secretary.

8.6 The Nomination Committee should announce the list of nominees, and publish on the EENPS web site the nominees' statements, a month before the Ordinary meeting of the Assembly.

9. Dissolution of the Network

9.1 The dissolution of the Network can only be decided at an Extraordinary meeting of the Assembly, whose sole agenda will be the dissolution of the Network.

9.2 The Steering Committee should resolve any issues related to the dissolution, including issues related to archiving and storing the documents of the Network.

10. Validity and Changes of the Statute

10.1 This Statute is in power immediately after being adopted by the Assembly at the EENPS 2018 conference in Bratislava.

10.2 The first elections of new members of the SC will take place at the Ordinary meeting of the Assembly at EENPS 2020. To ensure continuity, 5 members of the founding SC should claim their willingness to serve for another 2-year term. Those who will step out will be invited to join the Nomination Committee for the first elections. The members of SC, who will be elected in 2020 will serve for a 4-year term. The 5 members of the founding SC who will serve in the period 2020-2022 will be replaced by newly elected members at the Ordinary meeting of the Assembly, which will take place at EENPS 2022.

10.3 The Statute of EENPS can be changed only if the two thirds (2/3) of the Assembly vote for its change.