

EUROMECH – Statutes

Articles of the Association of the European Mechanics Society e.V.
(approved by the General Assembly of **20.12.2024**)

§1 Name of the Association

The association is called the "European Mechanics Society e.V." (hereinafter the "Association"). The statutory registered office of the Association is Aachen, Germany.

§2 Purpose of the Association

- (1) The Association pursues exclusively and directly charitable purposes in accordance with the section "Tax-Privileged Purposes" of the German Tax Code.
- (2) The purpose of the association is the "promotion of science and research" according to §52 para. 2 no. 1 of the German Tax Code (TC).
- (3) Mechanics deals with the movement, flow, and deformation of matter, whether liquid or solid, under the influence of forces, as well as all associated phenomena. Activities in the field of mechanics range from basic research on the behaviour of fluids and solids to applied research in engineering. The approaches used include theoretical, analytical, computational and experimental methods.
- (4) The Association will pursue this objective, in particular, through the following measures
 - i. Organizing European colloquia and conferences on topics across the entire field of mechanics,
 - ii. Establishing connections between individuals and organizations involved in scientific work in mechanics and related sciences,
 - iii. Collecting and disseminating information on all questions related to mechanics,
 - iv. Promoting scientific publications in mechanics and related disciplines,
 - v. Supporting young scientists in the above fields of science,
 - vi. Awarding prizes or other recognitions to outstanding scientists.
- (5) The Association adheres to the principle of non-discrimination and affirms the right of scientists worldwide to participate in or join international scientific

activities, regardless of their origin.

- (6) This is done without regard to race, religion, political ideology, ethnic origin, nationality, language, gender or sexual orientation.
- (7) The fulfilment of the Association's purpose shall, excluding any economic self-interest, serve exclusively and directly the promotion of science and thereby the public good.
- (8) The Association's funds may only be used for purposes stipulated in the Statutes of the Association. Members do not receive any benefits from the Association's funds. No person may be favoured by expenses that are alien to the purpose of the Association or by disproportionately high remuneration. The Association operates selflessly; it does not pursue primarily economic purposes.

§3 Self-administration

- (1) The Association manages its affairs through its own bodies (§7) and its own responsibility.
- (2) The financial year is the calendar year.

§4 Commencement of Membership

- (1) Membership of the Association is available in three categories
 - i. individual membership,
 - ii. joint membership,
 - iii. institutional membership.

Any natural person, regardless of nationality, residence, or other ties to a particular state, who adopts the purpose of the Association (§2), can become a member in category i.

Membership in category ii. is open to members of affiliated organizations, provided they possess the same qualifications or experience as members of category i.

Membership in category iii. is open to institutions or groups with an interest in mechanics, such as departments of academic institutions or informal groups of scientists. Membership in category iii. encompasses a single membership.

- (2) Each member has voting rights in the Association and receives regular information on the Association's activities through a newsletter.
- (3) To obtain membership, an application must be submitted, which is decided by the Secretary General, or by participating in a colloquium or conference

organized by the Association. The membership fee is included in the participation fee.

§5 Rights and Obligations of Members

- (1) Every member, as well as every natural person belonging to an institutional member, has access to all scientific events of the Association.
- (2) Every member is obliged to pay the annual membership fee voluntarily by 30 June of each year to the Treasurer. If the membership fee is not paid after a reminder and demand for payment, the Board (§9) may decide to remove the member from the membership list and carry out the removal.

§6 Termination of Membership

- (1) Membership ends after the regular term expires.
- (2) Membership ends upon the death, withdrawal, or exclusion of the member.
- (3) Any member may resign from the Association at any time by submitting a written declaration to the Secretary General. The obligation to pay the fee for the current financial year and any outstanding contributions remains unaffected.
- (4) The Council (§10) may exclude a member from the association by resolution with a three-quarters majority if there are serious reasons.

§7 Organs

The organs of the Association are

1. The General Assembly (§8)
2. The Board of Officers (§9),
3. The Council (§10).

§8 General Assembly

- (1) An ordinary General Assembly takes place every year. The date is announced to members in text form at least two months in advance.
- (2) An extraordinary General Assembly must be convened upon the decision of the Council or at the request of more than one-tenth of all members of the Association. The request must include details on the topics and reasons for an extraordinary General Assembly. Such a request must be granted within eight

weeks.

- (3) Every General Assembly is convened by the President. It is considered properly convened if the location, time, and agenda are communicated to members four weeks in advance in text form.
- (4) Every member has voting rights in the General Assembly. The voting right of an institutional member is exercised by a delegate. A delegate may exercise the voting right for a maximum of two institutional members.
- (5) The General Assembly can be conducted in whole or in part online.

§8a Responsibilities of the General Assembly and Elections

- (1) The General Assembly is responsible for
 - a) Electing the Board, whose members are proposed by the Council,
 - b) Electing the Council members and auditors,
 - c) Receiving the Board's annual report, auditors' reports, and discharging the Board,
 - d) Amending the Articles of Association and dissolving the Association,
 - e) Setting membership fees for individual and corporate members,
 - f) Appointing honorary members based on proposals from the Council.

Further details are regulated by the Association's Internal Regulations.

- (2) Elections are generally held annually. If the terms of the members of the Board of Officers and the Council have not ended, no election is held. The terms of the members of the Board and the Council are governed by the Internal Regulations. The term of office begins on January 1st of the calendar year following the election. If a member of the Board or Council leaves office before the end of their term, a new election must be held for the vacant position for the remainder of the term.
- (3) Voting is done electronically. Further details are regulated by the Internal Regulations
- (4) The Council is responsible for conducting the elections. Further details are regulated by the Internal Regulations.
- (5) The Board of Officers and auditors remain in office until new elections after their term has expired.

§8b Resolution Procedure in the General Assembly and minutes

- (1) Every duly convened General Assembly Meeting is quorate for the negotiation points set out in the agenda.
- (2) All votes are decided by a simple majority. In the event of a tie, a motion is considered rejected. Amendments to the Articles of the Association require a two-thirds majority of the votes cast, and dissolution of the Association requires a three-quarters majority of the votes cast (§11).
- (3) A record of the General Assembly Meeting's results is kept, which must be signed by at least one member of the Board and the Secretary of the meeting and approved by the Council. The resolutions of the General Assembly are made available to members as a resolution protocol by the Secretary General.

§9 The Board of Officers

- (1) The Board of Officers is the managing body of the Association. It consists of
 - a) the President,
 - b) the Vice President,
 - c) the Secretary General, and
 - d) the Treasurer.
- (2) The Board is responsible, in particular, for
 - a) organizing the work of the Association,
 - b) proposals to the General Assembly regarding the Association's activities and elections.

Further details are governed by the Internal Regulations.

- (3) The Board of Officers consisting of the persons named under (1) constitutes the Association's Executive Committee in accordance with §26 BGB. Each member of the Executive Committee is entitled to represent the Association individually. The Executive Committee manages the affairs of the Association. The members of the Executive Committee are required to coordinate the performance of their tasks and the associated decisions among themselves.
- (4) The Vice President is the past President after the end of his/her regular term of office.
- (5) The Secretary General conducts the Association's day-to-day business in agreement with the President and in accordance with the Board's resolutions.
- (6) They or a previously designated deputy shall keep the minutes of the Board,

Council and General Assembly meetings.

- (7) The Board prepares an annual budget for the following year, with the Treasurer managing the finances. The Treasurer reports on the financial results at the annual General Meeting, which must be approved by the auditors. After approval, the General Assembly grants the Board discharge.
- (8) Voting is done by a simple majority. In the event of a tie, the President's vote is decisive.
- (9) Board meetings can be held entirely or partially online. The Board may adopt its own rules of procedure.

§10 The Council

- (1) The Council includes
 - a) the members of the Board in accordance with §9,
 - b) six additional elected members
 - c) an observer from the IUTAM (International Union of Theoretical and Applied Mechanics).
- (2) In addition to the regular members (§10,1) of the Council, up to three individuals can be co-opted. The regular term of a co-opted member is one year.
- (3) When electing members of the Council according to §8b, care should be taken to ensure that all scientific fields supported by the Association are adequately represented. Furthermore, a good balance concerning nationality and gender is sought.
- (4) The Council is responsible for
 - a) general matters of the Association, insofar as they are not assigned to the General Assembly. This includes, in particular, adopting the Association's regulations (e.g. Association Internal Regulations, election regulations),
 - b) determining the time and place of scientific meetings and appointing local organizing committees,
 - c) approving the minutes of the General Assembly,
 - d) electing representatives of the Association at institutions with which the Association cooperates,
 - e) excluding members in accordance with §6(4),

- f) deciding on the use of the Association's assets in the event of dissolution according to §12.

Further details are regulated by the Internal Regulations.

- (3) The Council establishes permanent conference committees responsible for the scientific organization of the Association's conferences. The respective chairs can be invited to the Council meetings.
- (4) The President chairs the Council.
- (5) The Council can also pass resolutions in writing or electronically upon the request of the President or Secretary General. Voting is by simple majority. In the event of a tie, the President's vote is decisive.
- (6) The Council meets at least once a year. If half of its members request it, the Council must be convened within four weeks by the President for a meeting.
- (7) Council meetings can be held entirely or partially online.
- (8) The Council may invite guests to its meetings. Further details are regulated by the Internal Regulations.
- (9) The Council may adopt its own rules of procedure.

§11 Scientific Advisory Board

The Association establishes a scientific advisory board to advise it on all strategic issues of the Association and to propose candidates for the Council. The advisory board also submits matters and questions on all topics falling within the Association's activities to the Council for review.

§12 Dissolution of the Association

- (1) The dissolution of the Association can only be decided by a three-quarters majority in a General Assembly.
- (2) In the event of dissolution, members have no claim to participation in the Association's assets or a liquidation surplus; the same applies if a member leaves or is excluded.
- (3) In the event of dissolution or abolition of the Association or if tax-privileged purposes cease to exist, the Association's assets will be transferred to a legal entity under public law or another tax-privileged body to be used for the promotion of science. The recipient of the assets will be decided by the Council by a two-thirds majority. Resolutions regarding the future use of the assets may only be executed after approval from the tax authorities.

§13 Affiliated Organizations

An organization representing a significant number of scientists within the European mechanics community on a national or transnational basis can be recognized as an affiliated organization of the Association by the Council.

Each affiliated organization collaborates with the Association on all matters of common interest.

A list of affiliated organizations is found in the Association's Internal Regulations.